

Technicalities delay Super Etendards

PARIS (R) — Delivery of French Super Etendard planes to Iraq has been delayed for technical reasons, notably the training of Iraqi pilots, an Iraqi military commander said Saturday. General Mohammed Gassam told French journalists in Baghdad that the pilots would return to Iraq soon to complete their training. Iraq was leaving it to French experts to decide when the pilots were ready to fly combat missions, he added. Gen. Gassam reaffirmed that the five aircraft armed with Exocet missiles had not yet arrived in Iraq. President Saddam Hussein told French journalists on Thursday that he expected the jets would be delivered before the end of this month. Last Saturday, informed military sources in Paris said the Super Etendards had flown from their base in western France to southern France en route for Iraq.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جوردان تيمز: صحيفة سياسية عربية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية "الراي"

Five Socialist premiers meet today

ATHENS (R) — Five Socialist prime ministers of southern European countries meet here Sunday and Monday for informal talks on their common ideology, the world economic situation and perhaps East-West issues. The five — France's Pierre Mauroy, Italy's Bettino Craxi, Portugal's Mario Soares, Spain's Felipe Gonzalez and host Andreas Papandreu of Greece — have held meetings regularly in the last three years but this will be the first with them all as prime ministers. All five have come to power in the last two years after long periods of conservative rule in their countries. There is no official agenda for the talks and no final statement will be issued. But a Greek government spokesman said the main focus will be economic issues, where the five agree in criticising U.S. policies, in calling for a better deal for the Third World, and in favouring reflation without inflation.

Volume 8 Number 2388

AMMAN, SUNDAY OCTOBER 16, 1983 — MUHARRAM 10, 1404

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

128 Pakistanis die during Haj

KARACHI (R) — Pakistan Saturday said 128 of its pilgrims to Islam's holiest shrines in Saudi Arabia died during this year's annual pilgrimage and 17 were still missing. The minister of state for Haj (pilgrimage) affairs, Zakaria Kamdar, told reporters that up to 800 of the 54,630 pilgrims who went from Pakistan were reported missing during the pilgrimage season. Most were old people who could not speak Arabic, he said, and they found their groups by returning to the main mosque in Mecca and waiting for friends or relatives to locate them. Authorities are still searching for the 17 missing persons.

Japanese fighters on false alarm

TOKYO (A.P.) — Japanese self-defence force jet fighters scrambled when a plane appearing to be a Soviet jet fighter violated Japanese airspace off Japan's northernmost main island of Hokkaido Saturday, the defence agency reported. Two F-104 Japanese fighters scrambled when the plane was spotted by Japanese radar at 11:07 a.m. (0207 GMT) Saturday about 18.5 kilometres northeast of Cape Shiretoko on northeastern Hokkaido, agency officials said. The plane entered Japan's airspace off the cape for two minutes before flying off to the northeast in the direction of the Soviet air base on the Soviet-held island of Etorofu. The Japanese jet fighters from Chitose air base in Hokkaido were unable to identify the plane, the officials said.

U.S. commission in Nicaragua

MANAGUA (R) — President Reagan's special commission on Central America arrived Saturday in Nicaragua, which said Friday it would seek combat planes and warships to defend itself against attacks by right-wing rebels. The commission, headed by former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, was scheduled to meet Nicaraguan junta leader Daniel Ortega whose country is facing its worst fuel crisis as a result of the rebel attacks. The 14-member commission was met at the airport by a low-level delegation and received none of the red carpet treatment given in other Central American countries.

Nicaragua to boost military power, page 8

W. German protests turn violent

BREMENHAVEN, West Germany (R) — Rioting flared outside a U.S. army base here Saturday night as police used water cannons to disperse hundreds of anti-nuclear protesters throwing rocks and paving slabs at police lines. Masked demonstrators in the crowd fired coloured flares at police helicopters flying low overhead, while helmeted police carrying riot shields cleared a stretch of road several hundred metres long in front of the American Carl Schurz Base. Dozens of protesters were arrested and at least two were taken away by ambulance, one with a face wound. Earlier story on page 8

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Beirut gets militias' okay for Greek, Italian personnel

Lebanese rivals agree on ceasefire observers

BEIRUT (R) — A security committee of Lebanon's warring factions agreed Saturday on a proposal for Italy and Greece to send observers to monitor the country's 20-day-old ceasefire.

A communique carried by state-run Beirut Radio said the committee, grouping the Lebanese army with three rival militias, made the decision unanimously at a meeting in no-man's land on the outskirts of Beirut. The Lebanese government has been waiting for the committee to agree on terms for deploying the observers before sending formal requests to Italy and Greece.

Both Rome and Athens have said they are willing to send observers to monitor the truce, which is subject to daily violations, provided all parties agree.

The Lebanese government envisages that a total of 800 observers be deployed in the former battle zones in the Shouf mountains southeast of the capital and Beirut's troubled southern suburbs.

The committee said the security committee "agrees that official requests be sent to Greece and Italy to assume this mission, provided that observers are deployed in the battle zones in a manner covering all these zones."

The condition that observers deploy in all the battle zones was the only term mentioned in the communique. It said the committee would continue discussing operational details of the observers' mission, indicating that

gent was killed and another serviceman wounded in separate incidents.

Amal reports casualties

Amal leader Nabih Berri told reporters Saturday the snipers had wounded five of his men since Thursday. Amal sources later reported three civilians injured Saturday in similar incidents.

Military sources said the army, militias and Marines were so close together it was almost impossible to tell who was shooting at whom. Some parts of the southern suburbs are no-man's-land from which snipers can operate without being identified.

Mr. Berri said an unspecified "fourth party" was at work in the area, trying to provoke trouble by shooting at everyone.

2 UNIFIL men wounded

In a separate incident Saturday two French soldiers serving with the United Nations Truce Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) were wounded on the main coast road from Beirut to the south.

A U.N. spokesman said an explosive device went off on the roadside as they were leading a convoy to the capital from the UNIFIL area in South Lebanon.

The explosion took place near the coastal village of Jiyeh, 25 kilometres south of Beirut, a place frequented by Israeli patrols, and the attackers could have mistaken the U.N. convoy for an Israeli one. Right-wing Falangist radio spe-

culated that the blast was a stray shell from the Kharoub region inland from Jiyeh, where security sources said rival militias exchanged artillery fire for much of Saturday morning.

Beirut Radio also said shells were falling on the coast road as a result of the fighting, which was apparently between the "Lebanese Forces" and the PSP Druze militias.

Syrian warning

Meanwhile, an official Syrian newspaper warned Saturday Syria would regard any attempt by Lebanon's rightists or the United States to stop the "national dialogue" as a violation of the Lebanese ceasefire.

The frontpage comment in the government daily Tishrin said: "Syria will view any American or Falangist attempt to stop the national dialogue as a violation of the ceasefire."

"In that case, the Arab Lebanese forces and the (Lebanese opposition) National Salvation Front, with the full support of Syria, will have the right to force a battle on the Falangist regime when and where they choose."

With only five days to go before a full-scale "national reconciliation conference," Lebanese politicians invited to the meeting had still to agree where to meet.

The aim of the conference, envisaged under the Saudi-mediated truce last month, is to end over eight years of civil war by finding a political formula.

Iraq has Mirages with Exocets, president says

BAGHDAD (R) — President Saddam Hussein, expressing surprise at the "fuss" over France's delivery of five Super Etendard jets to Iraq, has said his country already has a squadron of French-built warplanes armed with Exocet missiles.

In remarks to French journalists broadcast Friday night on Baghdad Television, he said an existing Iraqi squadron of F-1 Mirage jets was armed with Exocet missiles, and described the planes as being as effective as the Super Etendards.

"These planes (the Super Etendards) were not the only ones for which we signed contracts with France to use against naval targets and installations," he said.

"In fact, we have a complete squadron of (F-1) planes equipped with Exocets that will fulfil the same tasks as the Super Etendards," he told the journalists on Thursday.

The Iraqi president said he expected the Super Etendards, which apparently would give Iraq increased ability to strike at Iranian oil installations, in Iraq before the end of the month.

French military sources said a week ago that the Super Etendards armed with the missiles had left their base in western France on their way to Iraq.

Iran has said it will halt oil shipments through the Gulf if Iraq disrupts Iranian oil exports. President Hussein said the French people "must not believe

what they hear on radio stations that France, counter to its national policy, delayed the delivery of the planes because of American or British pressure."

He expressed surprise over what he termed the recent fuss over the Super-Etendards, although they did not carry nuclear bombs or internationally-banned weapons.

"True, they will carry weapons that will develop the quality of Iraqi usage against defined targets, but as they do not carry forbidden weapons, why was such a fuss created over them, despite their limited number," he said.

President Hussein stressed that his government would not accept any conditions attached to its use of the Super Etendards.

"We do not buy weapons from France alone and we refuse conditions on our weapons, because when we pay for them, we use them the way we see fit, taking into consideration international factors and interests of peace and stability in the world," he said.

He said he did not exclude Iran's possible closure of the Strait of Hormuz to free navigation, adding: "World public opinion must not bow to such blackmail, it will not be the last Iranian threat."

West hopeful Gulf war will develop into crisis; IEA chief sees no threat to oil flow; Iran warns U.S. against action in Gulf, page 2

South Africa displays military muscles

PRETORIA (R) — South Africa Saturday displayed its formidable military strength in the capital's largest parade since World War II of men and hardware, most locally-made because of a United Nations arms embargo.

More than 3,000 armed men, 90 aircraft and 80 combat vehicles from the army, navy and air force paraded through central Pretoria in front of government leaders, foreign diplomats and thousands of spectators.

Among the weapons displayed in a two-kilometre armoured column were huge artillery pieces, tanks, armoured cars, mine-resistant troop carriers and

lethally-accurate rocket launchers.

Most, including the rarely-shown G-6 self-propelled gun, are locally made and have been combat-proven on the border between Namibia (South West Africa) and Angola against guerrillas of the South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO).

Since the U.N. embargo was imposed on South Africa in 1977, state-owned Armscor has manufactured and even exported a number of weapons suited to lightning strikes and mobile guerrilla warfare.

On display Saturday for the first



His Majesty King Hussein Saturday opens the Fourth International Congress on the History of Bilad Al Sham (Greater Syria) at the University of Jordan (Petra photo)

Hussein calls for true picture of history

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday called on historians and scholars interested in the history of Bilad Al Sham (Greater Syria) to work towards arriving at an "objective and true picture of the Arab history of the region and rewriting the history based on truth and facts."

The King, who was opening the Fourth International Congress on the History of Bilad Al Sham at the University of Jordan, also urged Arab universities to "sho-

under their scientific responsibility and serve the aspirations of the Arab Nation which seeks to achieve more progress and far-reaching objectives."

King Hussein also emphasised the significance of Bilad Al Sham as "the cradle of Arab civilisation and identity," and which "constituted the most potential force for confronting challenges and safeguarding the Arab national entity and rights."

"Bilad Al Sham has been exp-

osed to invaders' attacks before and after the emergence of Islam and the invaders have left their mark on our soil. Byzantine domination of the region receded and was finally overwhelmed by the Arab presence and this has a significant meaning and is worthy of deep study," the King told the audience of top Arab and foreign historians and scholars.

Full story on page 3

Shamir seeks Aridor's successor

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir Saturday resumed his search for a successor to Finance Minister Yoram Aridor, who resigned last week amid opposition to his plan to link Israel's faltering economy to the American dollar.

After a brief respite for the Jewish Sabbath, Mr. Shamir was meeting members of his Herut (freedom) faction of the Likud coalition government.

The opposition Labour Party and two small factions in the Knesset (parliament) plan to introduce no-confidence motions.

With the week-old government facing a serious challenge to its handling of Israel's economic crisis, Mr. Shamir, who is acting finance chief as well as premier and foreign minister, was under intense pressure to appoint a successor to Mr. Aridor.

"There are many names, but up to now there is no candidate who could be considered serious," said a political source who requested anonymity.

Deputy Prime Minister David Levy, defeated by Mr. Shamir in the leadership contest to succeed Menachem Begin, turned down the post.

He dismissed reports in the Israeli press that Mr. Shamir would offer the Finance Ministry to Ezer Weizman, defence minister in Mr. Begin's first government, as "nothing but speculation or wishful thinking."

The most probable candidates to succeed Mr. Aridor appeared to be former Finance Minister Yigael Horowitz, Energy Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, a persistent Aridor critic, Deputy Finance Minister Haim Kaufman or Likud parliamentarian Yigael Cohen-Argov, an economist.

King, Junblatt hold talks

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein and Lebanese opposition leader Walid Junblatt Saturday discussed the situation in Lebanon, including attempts to hold reconciliation talks among warring factions in the country, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said.

Mr. Junblatt, leader of Lebanon's predominantly Druze "progressive Socialist Party (PSP)," arrived here from Paris on Thursday to meet his wife and children who are living in Amman.

He was on a European tour during which he met Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme and French External Affairs Minister Claude Cheysson before cutting short the trip saying that the ceasefire in Lebanon was precarious.

Gromyko, Genscher begin talks on Geneva stalemate

VIENNA (R) — Foreign ministers Andrei Gromyko of the Soviet Union and Hans-Dietrich Genscher of West Germany began talks in Vienna Saturday on deadlocked U.S.-Soviet arms negotiations.

Mr. Genscher told reporters before the talks opened at the Soviet embassy that he did not want the two-day meeting to be burdened with excessive expectations.

But he added: "I am quite certain that this meeting can contribute, as part of the East-West dialogue, to making opposite positions more understandable."

Mr. Gromyko made no statement when he arrived by air direct from a two-day meeting of Warsaw Pact foreign ministers in the Bulgarian capital of Sofia. But he smiled cheerfully for cameras in the embassy before settling down for the afternoon session.

Diplomatic sources expected Mr. Gromyko to clarify Moscow's position at the Geneva talks on limiting intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF) in Europe. Soviet officials have hinted the Kremlin may break off or suspend the talks if the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) deploys new cruise and Pershing-2 missiles in Western Europe from December as planned.

At their Sofia meeting the Warsaw Pact ministers said the talks should continue beyond the end of this year but linked their statement with a renewed call for abandonment of the deployment plans.

Western diplomats said the statement had a positive tone but was ambiguous.

The official reason for the Gromyko-Genscher meeting, between the longest-serving foreign ministers of NATO and the Warsaw Pact, is that it replaces talks which had been scheduled for New York.

Her press conference, covering domestic and international topics, also touched on relations with India's neighbours, the situation in Punjab, the economy and her style of government. (Three dead, 25 hurt in Punjab, page 8)

The 65-year-old premier said the view of leaders she had met at the U.N. was that global tensions had increased the risk of war.

Asked about the proposed deployment of new U.S. missiles in Western Europe, she said: "We think that the arms race must be ended, some way should be found to end it."

"Today, whatever people disagree on, I think that at least 90 per cent agree that there can be no victory in a war — all will be the losers."

She said many people round the world had come to realise this. "I think ordinary people are becoming more and more conscious of this and that is why we support the peace movement which now transcends national boundaries, ideological boundaries or class boundaries."

There was an increasing risk that a panic reaction by one country could spark off a conflict, she said.

"How does war come about?" she demanded. "It comes about when confrontation and tension increases and that is what is happening — and also when suspicion increases, when you are so concerned about what the other side may do that you yourself may have a panic reaction and do something which may trigger off a war or something which you did not want to have — and we seem to be heading in that direction."

Also present were several cabinet ministers, although Prime Minister P.W. Botha did not attend. Officials said this was because of a last minute hitch but gave no explanation.

Parkinson episode bruises Thatcher's political image

LONDON (R) — British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has taken a political bruising from the resignation of cabinet minister Cecil Parkinson over a love affair, commentators said Saturday.

Mr. Parkinson, 52, was one of the prime minister's closest allies. His resignation Friday from the post of trade and industry secretary came as a severe embarrassment to Mrs. Thatcher, who had personally given him the full-thrust backing.

He resigned after his jilted mistress, Sara Keays, accused him of twice renegeing on promises to abandon his wife and marry her. Ms. Keays, Mr. Parkinson's former secretary, is expecting their baby in January.

Commentators said the affair had damaged Mrs. Thatcher personally, at least for the time being, because her judgment in backing him now appeared questionable.

The Times of London said in an editorial: "It cannot be denied that the prime minister has been bruised by this episode... she is not indestructible, but she is a tough



Cecil Parkinson

lady. She has been bruised before and will no doubt be bruised again."

Mr. Parkinson's fall from power dominated this week's Conservative Party conference in Blackpool. His resignation announcement completely overshadowed Mrs. Thatcher's key speech to the party delegates Friday afternoon.

On Saturday, all the principal actors in the drama maintained a public silence, despite the persistence of British newsmen.

MIDDLE EAST

U.S. ready to use carrier task force to keep Hormuz open

West hopes Gulf war will not develop into crisis

By Jeffrey Aronson
Reuters

WASHINGTON — Despite repeated U.S. warnings against attempts to block Gulf oil routes, administration officials are discouraging speculation about an impending military crisis that could involve American forces in the region.

The White House, echoing recent warnings by the State Department, said Thursday the United States would not stand idly by if a fresh flareup in the Iraq-Iran war threatens to disrupt oil shipping lanes from the Gulf.

Iran has said it would close the 40-kilometre wide Strait of Hormuz at the mouth of the Gulf if Iraq, which it has been at war since 1980, uses French-supplied Super Etendard fighter planes to cut off Iranian oil exports.

Pentagon officials say the planes, which can fire Exocet missiles of the type that proved effective against British warships in the Falklands War, have been delivered to Iraq.

But they are not convinced Iraq will carry out its threat to use the deadly combination against Iranian oil facilities, or that Iran would respond by blocking all Gulf shipping.

Iraq's President Saddam Hussein has been quoted as saying he expects delivery of five Super

Etendards by the end of the month.

Marines not counted

The officials also discounted recent press reports that a unit of U.S. Marines now headed toward the Gulf region would be used to reopen a blockaded Strait of Hormuz.

If the United States were obliged to use force to make good its pledge to keep the waterway open, they said, it would call upon its own powerful naval and air forces and those of its allies in the region.

These include a nine-ship battle group under the aircraft carrier Ranger, the small permanent U.S. Fleet in the Gulf, British and French warships which are nearby and other units that could be moved to the area in a matter of days.

Officials said the 2,000 Marines are on their way home to Hawaii from peacekeeping duties in Leb-

anon and there is no plan to keep them near the Gulf until Iraq's new French planes are operational, which they said is probably about six weeks away.

The Marines were due to go home last month after taking part in Indian Ocean exercises but were sent to the Mediterranean when renewed fighting in Lebanon killed four U.S. Marines.

They were reported this week to be passing through the Suez Canal and Red Sea bound for the Indian and Pacific oceans.

The Pentagon officials said it was hard to envisage a plan calling for U.S. ground forces to reopen a Gulf blockaded by Iran.

NEWS ANALYSIS

Some U.S. officials also voiced scepticism that Iraq would risk Iranian retaliation against its own oil export trade by attacking Iran's oil terminals.

Others said Iraq might do so in its desperation to end the three-year-old war, either by cutting off the oil revenue that funds the Iranian war effort or by drawing the United States and other Western nations into the fighting.

But if that happens, officials said Iran might choose to strike back directly at Iraq rather than

risk widening the war by seeking to cut off oil exports from Saudi Arabia and other major Gulf producers.

If Iran did try to close the Gulf, Pentagon officials said, it might be able to sink a few ships with mines and cause a temporary panic among shippers. But it could not enforce a long-term blockade against U.S. and other Western opposition.

Nevertheless, recent U.S. studies have said even a brief interruption in Gulf supplies, which account for nearly 20 per cent of Western oil imports, would seriously damage economic recovery in the West and force world oil prices up sharply.

Despite reduced U.S. dependence on Gulf oil, a congressional report last month said a cutoff would reduce the U.S. Gross National Product by up to 30 per cent on a short-term basis, assuming the recession has ended.

Based on 1982 figures, the report said world oil supplies would fall short by more than five million barrels a day and prices would rise from the present \$34 a barrel to \$65 and eventually \$130.

Officials say this explains why, even though a military confrontation is considered a fairly remote possibility, the United States continues to make clear it would not tolerate a move by Iran, or anyone else, to close the Gulf.



FREE FOR ALL: An old Shi'ite woman from the southern suburbs of Beirut seen holding an American-made M-16 automatic rifle. (A.P. wirephoto)

Iran warns U.S. about Gulf action

TEHRAN (R) — An Iranian leader warned the United States Friday against seeking a confrontation with Iran in the Gulf, a day after Washington said it would take any action necessary to keep oil supplies flowing from the area.

The national news agency IRNA quoted the speaker of parliament, Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, as telling a Friday prayers meeting that any U.S. attempt to take on Iran was doomed to failure.

"The Americans know full well that the weapons they gave us during the past regime have remained intact, of which our competence and our military industries will make the best use at the right time," Mr. Rafsanjani said.

The United States issued its

warning Thursday after repeated threats by Iran to close the Gulf, cutting off oil supplies to the West, if Iranian oil exports were interrupted by Iraqi attacks.

Iraq, which has been at war with Iran for three years, was reported a week ago to have taken delivery of five Super Etendard planes from France which could be used to launch missile attacks on Iranian oil installations or on tankers carrying Iranian crude.

The Iranian news agency quoted Mr. Rafsanjani as renewing his country's threat in his sermon at the prayer meeting.

Mr. Rafsanjani said the international fuss over the reported delivery of the Super Etendards was simply an attempt to put pressure on the Islamic revolutionary

government in Tehran. He said pilots of Iran's U.S.-made F-14 interceptors vowed to knock the French planes out of the sky if they tried to attack Iran's main oil export terminal on Kharg Island.

Mr. Rafsanjani said "super-cilious world powers" had emboldened Iran in the war with Iraq in order to destroy the Islamic republic and establish Baghdad as the policeman of the Gulf.

Despite threatening gestures by both sides, there has been relatively little military activity on the Gulf war fronts since an Iranian offensive in August.

Iran's latest military communiqué said Friday six people had been killed in an Iraqi air raid on the border town of Marivan.

French army chief-of-staff visits Kuwait

KUWAIT (R) — French chief-of-staff Gen. Jean Lecasne and Kuwait's Crown Prince Sheikh Sabah Al-Jabir Al-Sabah Saturday discussed military cooperation between their two countries, officials said.

The officials gave no further details of the talks but said France had agreed earlier this year to provide Kuwait with 12 F-1 Mirage aircraft equipped with advanced missiles.

As-Siyassa newspaper said Friday Kuwait would start taking delivery of the planes early next year. The officials said France had agreed to provide Kuwait with 30 vehicles to transport MX-13 tanks.

They said that Gen. Lecasne, who arrived Friday for a three-day visit, had also discussed military cooperation with Kuwait's Defence Minister Sheikh Salem Al-Sabah, who visited Paris in April, and other military officials here.

Libyan envoy leaves Paris

PARIS (R) — Libya's Secretary for Foreign Liaison Abdel-Aziz Obeidi left Paris for home Friday after a three-day visit marked by tension over French citizens being held up in Libya.

Airport sources said Mr. Obeidi, who met French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson on Wednesday, left unaccompanied and declined to speak to the press.

Mr. Obeidi had complained about France's detention of a Libyan national wanted for the murder of a Libyan businessman in Italy in 1980, saying the arrest had been unwarranted.

Press reports here had speculated that the arrest of Rashid Said Mohammed Abdullah last week was linked to Libyan officials' refusal to allow 37 French nationals to board a Paris-bound flight in Tripoli last Sunday.

All 37 passengers were back in France Friday saying they had been well treated by the Libyans but had been given no explanation for the incident.

Mayor of Jerusalem hurt in scuffle

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Mayor Teddy Kollek was attacked and slightly injured Saturday by orthodox Jews as he walked to synagogue in Jerusalem's Mea Shearim quarter, a police spokesman said.

Mr. Kollek suffered scratches and bruises to his face but was not seriously injured in the scuffle. Police intervened but no arrests were made.

The mayor has recently been a target of orthodox anger because of plans to build a public swimming pool in a neighbourhood bordering the religious quarter.

Energy chief sees no threat to oil flow

BONN (R) — Threats by Iran to close the Strait of Hormuz do not pose a lasting danger to Western industrial nations' oil supplies, International Energy Agency Executive Director Ulf Lantze said Saturday.

Iran, at war with Iraq, has said it would close the Gulf, cutting off oil supplies to the West, if Iraqi attacks interrupt its oil exports.

Mr. Lantze, in a radio interview, said a blockade of the Gulf would mean an initial supply shortfall of eight million barrels a day (bpd) or about 16 per cent of the West's daily needs.

Other oil areas, such as Nigeria, Indonesia, Mexico or North Africa, could provide three or four million bpd from reserve capacity, while Saudi Arabia could supply an extra 1.5 million bpd if it made full use of its recently opened pipeline to the Red Sea, he added.

Mr. Lantze said the remaining shortfall of just under four million bpd need not cause concern, as there were adequate world-wide oil stocks at present.

Iraq to complete Saudi-Iraqi pipeline link within 1 year

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein has said he expects a pipeline to carry oil from southern Iraq to Saudi Arabia to be completed within a year.

He told French journalists in remarks broadcast Friday night by Baghdad television that Saudi Arabia had decided to let Iraq link a pipeline now being built from southern Iraq to an existing Saudi pipeline.

"This pipeline will be com-

pleted in a short period — between six months and a year," Mr. Hussein told the journalists on Thursday.

Iraq currently has only one export outlet, a pipeline to the Turkish Mediterranean port of Ceyhan. The country's exports through the Gulf have been blocked by its three-year war with Iran, and Syria, which backs Iran in the conflict, closed last year a pipeline carrying Iraqi oil across its ter-

ritory. Mr. Hussein also said an agreement had been signed to allow crude oil to be transported by tanker truck through Jordan.

He confirmed Saudi Arabia had agreed to allow Iraq to build a further oil pipeline across Saudi territory to the Red Sea. Previous official statements have said this pipeline, which would not be completed for some years, would have a capacity of one million bpd.

Iraq awaits Yugoslav visit

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraqi Trade Minister Hassan Ali met Yugoslav Deputy Prime Minister Zvezdran Dragovic Saturday to prepare for Sunday's arrival here of Yugoslav Prime Minister Milka Planinc for a two-day visit, Yugoslav sources said.

The two ministers also reviewed bilateral cooperation and the progress of work carried out by Yugoslav firms in Iraq, they added.

Baath Party session set

DAMASCUS (R) — The central committee of Syria's ruling Baath Socialist Party will hold a closed meeting on Monday presided over by President Hafez Al-Assad, the official news agency SANA said. SANA gave no details of the agenda, but diplomatic sources said it was believed to be the run-up to a general congress of the party expected early next year when a cabinet reshuffle may be announced.

Iranian stall destroyed in Frankfurt fair

FRANKFURT (R) — A group of dissident Iranians destroyed Iran's official exhibition at the Frankfurt Book Fair Saturday, police said.

A group estimated at between 20 and 30 entered the stand, knocking over the displays. A police spokesman said there were no injuries, but several persons were taken into custody. He declined to give further details pending investigation.

2 alleged leftists killed in Turkey

ANKARA (R) — Two members of an illegal ultra left organisation were killed during a shootout with security forces at the town of Fatsa in northern Turkey, martial law authorities said Saturday.

A statement issued by the authorities said two other members of the Dev-Yol (revolutionary way) group, outlawed after the 1980 military coup, had been captured alive, while two members of the security forces had been wounded in the operation.

Before the coup, Fatsa was one of the most troubled areas in Turkey. Leftwing peoples' committees declared it an "independent zone" and imposed Marxist and Leninist doctrines on the inhabitants.

One of the biggest post-coup mass trials in the country is underway there, with 740 people in court, most of them — including the town's former mayor — alleged to be Dev-Yol members.

Denktash, Ankara clash about future of Cyprus

NICOSIA (R) — Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktash has said he had a difference of opinion with Ankara over his threat to declare north Cyprus "independent" but would pursue his aim if Greek-Cypriot President Spyros Kyprianou did not meet him.

Responding to reported statements from Ankara that Turkey favours inter-communal talks as a way to solve the problems of the divided island, Mr. Denktash told Reuters it was his duty to tell Turkey the talks will lead nowhere given the Greek Cypriot attitude to the Turkish Cypriots.

"It is up to me to make Turkey believe this... it is my duty. We are not 'yes men' to Turkey," he said. Asked if this meant there were now differences with the Ankara government, Mr. Denktash said: "I call it a dialogue but if you call it a difference, I will not complain."

He said he wanted to reply from Mr. Kyprianou before the end of the month as to whether a high level meeting will take place, though he accepted the actual meeting could take place much later.

He told an estimated 20,000 Turkish Cypriots during a rally in the main square of north Nicosia: "We are an independent people in an independent Cyprus. Now we must get our state recognised."

But he added that even after declaring independence he was prepared to return to negotiations to set up a federal two-zone republic.

Mr. Denktash said that if Greek Cypriot attitudes forced him to declare independence, he would like to do so before elections in Turkey in November.

Asked how he had responded to U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar's new initiative on Cyprus, Mr. Denktash said he had had views in favour of part of the proposals but that Mr. Kyprianou had already killed the initiative by accepting its method of approach and rejecting the ingredients.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

MAIN CHANNEL
16:30 — Koran
16:35 — Children's Programme
17:15 — Local Programme
19:10 — Local Programme
19:35 — Special Programme on International Food Security
20:00 — News in Arabic
20:30 — Arabic Series
21:30 — Local Variety
22:30 — Arabic Series
23:10 — News Summary

FOREIGN CHANNEL

18:00 — French Programme
19:00 — News in French
19:30 — News in Hebrew
20:30 — News in Arabic
20:30 — Comedy: Les Minsters
21:10 — Weekly Series: The Citadel
22:00 — News in English
22:15 — Best Seller

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz, AM & 90 MHz, FM & partly on 9560 KHz, SW

07:00 — Morning Show
07:30 — News Bulletin
08:00 — News Summary
08:05 — Morning Show
12:00 — News Summary
12:05 — Pop Session
13:00 — Catch the Wave
13:05 — News Summary
14:00 — News Bulletin
14:10 — Instruments
14:30 — Science Report
14:30 — Concert Hour
16:00 — News Summary
16:05 — Instruments, Old Favourites
17:00 — Liveness Choice
18:00 — News Summary
18:05 — Jazz Hour
19:00 — News Summary
19:30 — Dile with a Star
20:00 — Evening Show
21:00 — News Summary
21:05 — Music USA Standards 1940-1950
21:10 — Critic's Choice 19:30 Special English
21:15 — News and Features 20:00 News 20:10
21:30 — Evening Show
23:00 — News Headlines

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1413 KHz

06:00 Newswatch 06:30 The English Air
06:45 Financial Review 06:55 Reflections 07:00 World News 07:05 British Press Review 07:15 Letterbox 07:30 Flinders and Swann 07:45 Letter from America 08:00 Newswatch 08:30 Jazz for the Aspiring 08:40 World News 08:45 The Pleasure of Your 11:00 World News 11:05 British Press Review 11:15 Science in Action 11:45 Sports Review 12:15 Classical Record Review 12:30 Religious Service 12:40 World News 13:05 News About Britain 13:15 Letter from America 13:30 Baker's Half Dozen 14:00 Play of the Week 15:00 World News 15:05 Commentary 15:15 Good Books 15:30 Clinging to the Wreckage 15:45 The Saudi Jones Request Show 16:30 No Stopping Stoppage 17:00 Radio Newswatch 17:15 From the Promenade 18:00 World News 18:05 Commentary 18:15 Letter from America 18:30 World Phone-In 19:00 World News 19:05 World Phone-In 19:30 Financial Review 19:40 Reflections 19:45 Sports Round-up 20:00 Newswatch 20:05 Brain of Britain 1983 21:00 Pled Piper 21:15 Lord Jim 22:00 World News 22:05 Sunday Half-Hour 22:30 The Nature of Britain 23:15 The Pleasure of Your 24:00 World News 00:05 Science in Action 00:40 Reflections 00:45 Sports Round-up 01:00 World News 01:05 Commentary 01:15 Letter from America 01:30 Detective

VOICE OF AMERICA

KHz: 1260, 5965, 7200, 15205, 11725

06:00 VOA Morning News: News Summary: Daily business report, Science and medicine, Sports reports, VOA editorial and world and U.S. opinion round-up; Daily documentary analysis 17:00 News 17:10 New Horizons and New Products 17:30 Special English News and Features 18:00 News 18:10 International Viewpoints 18:30 Music USA Standards 19:00 News 19:10 Critic's Choice 19:30 Special English News and Features 20:00 News 20:10 Sunday Report 20:30 Issues in the News 21:00 News

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

FILM

"Voyage En Grande Tartarie," at the French Cultural Centre at 7:30 p.m.

VARIETY SHOW

* By Al Awdah Troupe, at the Royal Cultural Centre at 6:00 p.m.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267
American Centre 44371
American Centre Library 41520
French Cultural Centre 36147-8
French Cultural Centre 37009
Goethe Institute 41993
Soviet Cultural Centre 44203
Spanish Cultural Centre 24049
Turkish Cultural Centre 39777
Haya Arts Centre 66195
Hussein Youth City 667181
Y.W.C.A. 41793
Y.W.M.A. 664251
Amman Municipal Library 36111
University of Jordan Library 843555

MUSEUMS

Falshara Museum Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also models from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman, Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.
Jordan Archaeological Museum Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabel Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.
Jordan National Gallery Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculpture by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Muzassan, Jabel Luweibeh. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30128.
Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916.

SERVICE CLUBS

Lebanese Club, Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Tyche Hotel, 1:30 p.m.
Lions Philhellenic Club, Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Marriott Hotel, 1:30 p.m.
Rotary Club, Meetings every Tuesday at the International Hotel, 8:00 p.m.
Royal Automobile Club, Jabel Amman, Eighth Circle, Tel. 815261.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic): Jabel Amman, Tel. 24590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic): Jabel Luweibeh, 37440.
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic): Jabel Hussein, 661757.
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox): Abadi, 33541.
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer): Jabel Amman, 41559.
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, 71331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, 71331.
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox): Ashrafieh, 71751.
Amman International Church (Inter-denominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani, 663249.

PRAYER TIMES

04:18 — Fajr
05:45 — Sunrise
11:22 — Dhuhr
14:37 — 'Asr
17:26 — Maghreb
18:26 — 'Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia information department at the Queen Alia International Airport, tel. (08) 53250, 53070, 53082, 53171, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

08:45 — Cairo (RJ)
09:05 — Athens (RJ)
09:15 — Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
09:30 — Jeddah (RJ)
09:40 — Doha (RJ)
09:45 — Kuwait (RJ)
10:15 — Beirut (RJ)
10:30 — Muscat, Dubai, Doha (GF)
10:35 — Dhahran, Riyadh (SV)
10:45 — Cairo (MS)
10:50 — Tripoli, Larnaca (LN)
11:00 — Jeddah (SV)
11:30 — Baghdad (IA)
11:35 — Cairo (RJ)
11:40 — Paris (RJ)
11:45 — Larnaca (RJ)
11:50 — Athens (RJ)
12:00 — Brussels, Frankfurt (RJ)
12:05 — Rome (RJ)
12:15 — Vienna, New York (RJ)
12:30 — London, Paris (RJ)
12:40 — Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)
12:45 — Rome (RJ)
12:50 — London (BA)
12:55 — Cairo (MS)
13:00 — Athens (RJ)
13:05 — Zurich, Athens, Damascus (SR)
13:15 — Cairo (MS)
13:20 — Athens (RJ)
13:25 — Cairo (RJ)
13:30 — Baghdad (RJ)

DEPARTURES

06:30 — Beirut (RJ)
06:40 — Damascus, Frankfurt (LH)
07:00 — Athens (RJ)
09:00 — Rome (AZ)
09:30 — Beirut (MEA)
09:35 — Rome (RJ)
11:00 — Athens (RJ)
11:15 — Cairo (RJ)
11:45 — Riyadh, Dhahran (SV)
12:15 — Larnaca (RJ)
12:30 — Cairo (RJ)
12:35 — Kuwait (RJ)
12:40 — Larnaca, Tripoli (LN)
12:50 — Jeddah (SV)

MONEY EXCHANGE

Local selling rates in Jls
Belgian franc: 68.7/ 69.1
Dutch guilder: 124.6/ 125.3
Egyptian pound: 323.6/ 328.3
French franc: 45.7/ 46
Iraqi dinar: 393.3/ 400
Italian lire (for 100): 231.3/ 233
Japanese yen (for 100): 156.1/ 157
Kuwaiti dinar: 1257.3/ 1264.3
Lebanese lira: 71.5/ 72.8
Omani rial: 1048.3/ 1055
Qatari rial: 99.8/ 100.5
Saudi riyal: 104.9/ 105.5
Swiss franc: 45.2/ 45.8
Syrian lira: 59.6/ 61
UAE dirham: 99.2/ 100
U.K. sterling pound: 547.8/ 551.1
U.S. dollar: 364.5/ 366.5
W. German mark: 139.9/ 140.7

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be partly cloudy, with not-unusually moderate winds. A drop in temperature is expected. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Low/high temperature in deg.C
Amman: 10/22
Aqaba: 15/28
Djordan: 9/24
Jordan Valley: 14/29

Yesterday's high temperatures:
Amman 20, Aqaba 26. Humidity readings: Amman 38 per cent, Aqaba 35 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Ambulance: 193, 75111
Fire: 75121
Police: 75121
Civil Defence rescue: 661111
Fire headquarters: 22090-3
Police rescue: 192, 21111, 37777
Police headquarters: 39141
Traffic police: 56390-1
Electric Power Co.: 36381-2
Municipal water service: 71125-8
Queen Alia Int. Airport: (08) 53333

HOSPITALS

Hussein Medical Centre: 813913-32
Khaldil Maternity, J. Amman: 44281-4
Alkhil Maternity, J. Amman: 42441
Jabal Amman Maternity: 42362
Madhah, J. Amman: 36140
Palestine, Shmeisani: 66471-4
Shmeisani Hospital: 669131
University Hospital: 845845
Der Al-Shifa, J. Hussein: 667158
Al-Munir Hospital: 667227-9
The Islamic, Abadi: 665292
Al-Ahli, Abadi: 666164
Italian, Al-Muhajireen: 77101-3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh: 75111
Army

Omani embassy to cover Egyptian interests here

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordanian government has given its consent to a proposal that Oman look after the interests of Egypt in Jordan instead of Sudan which has undertaken this task since 1978, according to a report in Al Ra'i newspaper Saturday.

It said that the proposal arose when Sudan decided to close down its embassy in Amman, one of 26 of

its embassies to be closed around the world as part of a programme designed to reduce government spending. The Sudanese embassy in Saudi Arabia will look after the Sudan's interests in Jordan, the paper added.

According to the paper, the Jordanian government has lately lifted a ban on Egyptian newspapers and magazine coming into Jordan.

Regional aviation safety meeting to begin Oct. 18

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein will inaugurate a two-day aviation safety seminar which will begin on Oct. 18 at the Amman Chamber of Commerce conference hall.

The seminar is organised and sponsored by Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airlines.

According to the agenda of the seminar, published in the Oct. 13 issue of the weekly newsletter of the airline Alia News, several Jordanian and foreign experts will address the regional seminar, which will also include delegates from Arab carriers in Iraq, Egypt,

Syria, North and South Yemen as well as Jordan.

The Jordanian and foreign speakers, who are mainly drawn from the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom, will discuss several subjects including accident prevention, pilot error and judgement, operational performance and dissemination of information.

Alia Chairman and President Ali Ghandour will deliver the welcoming speech and Najib Halabi, who will be acting as chairman of the seminar, will deliver the inaugural address.

Pan-Arab standardisation meeting opens in Amman

AMMAN (Petra) — Directors of measurement and standardisation offices in the Arab World opened their fourth annual meeting at the headquarters of the Arab Organisation for Standardisation and Metrology (AOSM) in Amman Saturday.

The meeting was opened by the AOSM secretary general, Zafar Al Sawaf, who outlined in a speech the objectives of the meeting and called on the participants to help promote standardisation and measurement in the Arab World.

AOSM was established in 1965 to unify technical terms and standard specifications for products

such as food, clothing, fertilisers, building materials, oil, minerals, and electrical products.

It also assists in the establishment of national bodies and collaborates with international standards activities.

Memo received

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordanian government has received a memo from the Arab League requesting that all Jordanian laws regarding regional water and sea affairs be submitted for use as guidelines for formulating a unified Arab law for sea and regional water affairs.

Valencia mayor commences 3-day visit

AMMAN (Petra) — The mayor of the Spanish city of Valencia, Mr. Ricardo Casado, arrived here Friday evening for a three-day visit to Jordan.

The visit is at the invitation of Amman Municipality and in implementation of a resolution passed by the Arab Cities Organisation that called for the bolstering of relations between Arab and Spanish cities, due to the strong relations between Spain and the Arab World.

The mayor and his accompanying delegation were met upon arrival at the airport by Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh and a number of officials, as well as the Spanish ambassador to Jordan, Menendez Del Valle.

Mr. Casado and his party will hold talks with Mr. Rawabdeh and his aides aimed at strengthening bilateral relations and launching cooperation between Amman and Valencia.

The delegation will also tour archaeological sites in the country.

Three killed in Irbid

IRBID (J.T.) — Two people died in a road accident and a third was killed when a wall in her house collapsed in Irbid Friday. The two crash victims Mustafa Jaradat and Khalaf Hussein, died when their two cars collided near the city.

Four other people were injured and taken to hospital for treatment following a road accident near Kufri Khall in the Irbid Governorate Friday.

King Hussein inaugurates distinguished gathering of international experts

Conference opens on history of Greater Syria

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A distinguished gathering of 40 Arab and foreign scholars and over 100 senior Jordanian officials filled the Samir Rifai auditorium at the University of Jordan Saturday morning for the opening by His Majesty King Hussein of the Fourth International Conference on the History of Bilad Al Sham.

This year's conference, which includes four days of presentations and discussions and three days of field trips around the country, takes up the theme of the Bilad Al Sham region from the beginning of the Byzantine period to the end of the Umayyad era.

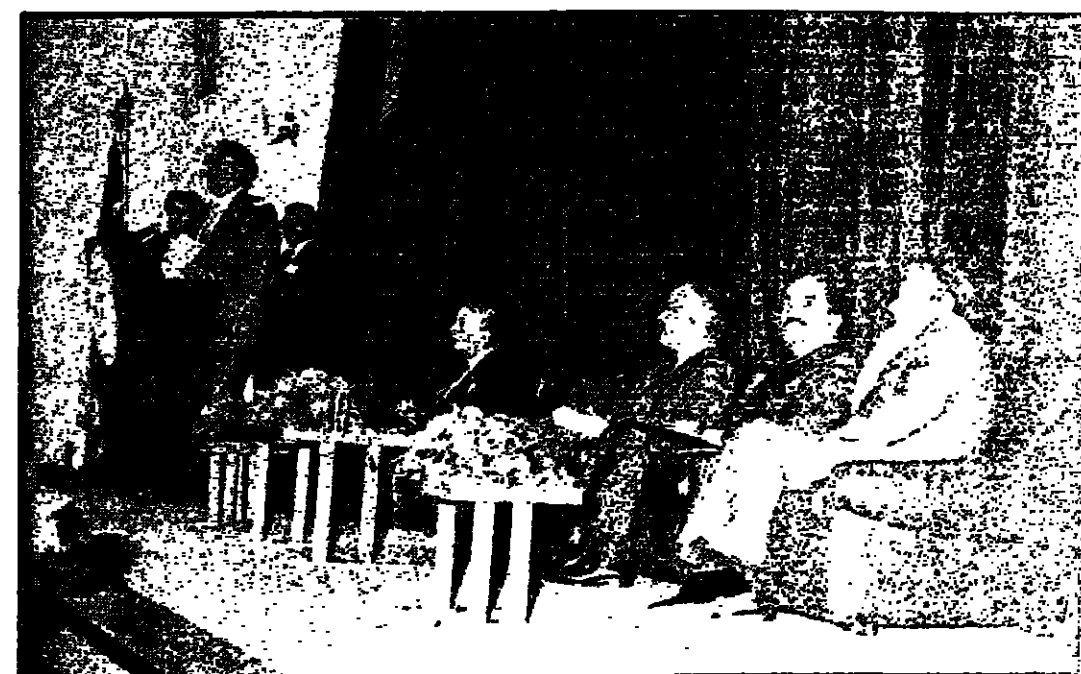
Bilad Al Sham is the area of historical Syria, and is usually translated into English as Greater Syria, or simply Syria. It includes modern day Syria, Jordan, Lebanon and Palestine/Israel.

The conference participants include an impressive array of international scholars, such as Dr. Herbert Donner from West Germany, Dr. Peter Parr from England, Dr. Ernest Will from France, Dr. Werner Seibt from Austria and Dr. Arfan Shaheed and Dr. George Atiyya from the United States. Leading Jordanian and Arab scholars taking part include: Dr. Mo'awiya Ibrahim, Dr. Fawzi Zayyadine, Dr. Nabil Kheiry, Dr. Nicola Ziyadeh, Dr. Youssef Ghawanmeh, and Dr. Ihsan Abbas among others.

Dr. Mohammad Adnan Bakhit of the University of Jordan, secretary of the Bilad Al Sham committee, welcomed the conference participants and guests, as did University of Jordan president, Dr. Abdul Salam Majali.

His Majesty King Hussein opened the conference with a speech outlining the historical role played by this part of the Arab World, and its contribution to Arab civilisation.

Following are excerpts from the King's speech: Bilad Al Sham has always been the cradle of Arab



Dr. Abdul Salam Al Majali, president of the University of Jordan, Saturday addresses the opening session of the Bilad Al Sham conference as His Majesty King Hussein and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan look on (Petra photo)

civilisation and identity, and constitutes the greatest potential force for confronting challenges and safeguarding Arab national unity and rights.

Bilad Al Sham has been exposed to invaders' attacks before and after the emergence of Islam, and the invaders have left their mark on our soil. Byzantine domination of this region receded and finally was overwhelmed by the Arab presence. This is very significant and is worthy of deep examination and study because the subject of this conference is the period stretching from the Byzantine period to the end of the Umayyad era.

That era, with all its events and results, bears proof of the long existence of Arabs in this part of the world, for over a thousand of years, until the present day. Arab existence in this region is closely linked with the prophecies and the prophets who are sent to this region; and the unity of the Arab people here was based on the very civilisation of man and on the values of justice and peace.

I congratulate this elite of scholars who seek to establish right and truth, and I admire their faithful scientific endeavours.

We are honoured to say that Jordan has had a significant role to play in the history of Bilad Al Sham, both by the endeavours of its people and due to its unique geographical location.

The role of our universities is therefore becoming more and more important, and this necessitates a continuous quest by scholars to attain more knowledge through cooperation and coordination with other universities and research centres. This has prompted us to begin close cooperation with the University of Damascus to help us obtain clearer pictures of the past history of Bilad Al Sham.

Our invitation to all scholars is open because we want the cooperation of all historians and scholars interested in the past history of Bilad Al Sham. We welcome these scholars to take part in our endeavours with the purpose of arriving at an objective and true picture of Arab history with the aim of re-writing this history based on pure facts and truth.

We also call on Arab universities to shoulder their scientific responsibilities and serve the aspirations of the Arab Nation which seeks to achieve more progress and far-reaching objectives.

The congress's idea presented

itself when it became evident that some people tried to misrepresent historical events and deal with them outside their natural context. Dr. Adnan Al Bakhit, professor of history at the University of Jordan, congress secretary and head of the documents and manuscripts department at the university, told the Jordanian News Agency, Petra. The need for writing the history of Bilad Al Sham, said Dr. Bakhit, became urgent after the creation of the alien Zionist state in the region.

The first congress on the history of Bilad Al Sham convened in April, 1974 under the patronage of King Hussein, and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan presided over the congress. The second congress was held in cooperation with the Damascus University late 1978, and the third at the University of Jordan in April 1980 in cooperation with Damascus University and Yarmouk

University, Dr. Bakhit added. The 1981 congress research papers, which exceeded 1000, concentrated on the history of Palestine throughout the ages. Dr. Bakhit pointed out.

Dr. Bakhit said the University of Jordan is now working to issue the studies presented to the third congress in a number of volumes, in English and French in addition to Arabic.

This achievement will help provide satisfactory information and analysis of the studied era, and offer the Ministry of Education a reliable source of information that can be of invaluable profit at the educational level. Dr. Bakhit added.

Thirty-three papers will be presented during the present conference, which is being held under the joint sponsorship of the University of Jordan, Yarmouk University and Mutah University.

UNRWA celebrates Jordan Dental Health Day

By Afifah A. Kahoti
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Very soon after the start of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) operations 33 years ago, the agency began to pay special attention to dental care within its efforts to cope with health problems, Director of UNRWA affairs, Per Olof Hallqvist said Saturday.

Mr. Hallqvist was speaking at a celebration to mark Dental Care Day held at the Amman Training Centre which was attended by a large number of UNRWA staff and trainees.

Although at that time the agency faced major problems with infectious diseases, environmental hazards and nutritional inadequacies, a dental health programme was started simultaneously.

"Its aim was to promote an acceptable level of dental health among the Palestinian refugee population registered with UNRWA," he said.

Mr. Hallqvist said that there is today a dental clinic in each refugee camp and "efforts continue to be made to develop the prevention and control of dental diseases."

About this year's improvement in Jordan regarding dental care, Mr. Hallqvist said that the agency decided to add one dental care team to the existing ones as well as some additional equipment to be delivered to dental clinics.

Mr. Hallqvist expressed his thanks and appreciation to a donor in Amman who gave the agency a complete dental care unit with all necessary facilities which has been installed in one of the refugee camps.

Future plans

Regarding the agency's future plans for dental care, Mr. Hallqvist said that UNRWA in Jordan is presently preparing to introduce a dental health assistant training course at the Amman training centre starting from the next academic year.

"We will never succeed in our oral health programme unless we have good cooperation and can count on the good will of the refugees themselves in trying to attain a high level of dental health," he stressed.

Mr. Hallqvist pointed out that the agency will assist and guide the refugees in the province of health education which is organised through the agency health centres and the school health activities.

Health staff, Mr. Hallqvist said, provide oral health education and oral hygiene instruction for tooth



Per Olof Hallqvist, director of UNRWA affairs in Jordan, addresses a meeting Saturday to mark Dental Health Day with the other speakers in attendance (Petra photo)

and gum cleaning to mothers, children and other adults attending the agency's health centres.

He added that oral hygiene instruction forms part of the school health programme which "we have emphasised specifically this academic year in more than 200 agency schools in Jordan."

Mr. Hallqvist encouraged staff and students at the Amman Training Centre to assist in the implementation of this programme by setting a personal example and by teaching others.

The World Health Organisation's (WHO) goal of "Health for all in the Year 2000" concerns general health as well as dental health.

"This goal is not an easy one to achieve but, given greater awareness by the public and with the will of each of us to prevent diseases, we can achieve this goal also, with regard to dental health."

Also addressing the audience on the occasion was Dr. Naji Ayyash, a field health officer. Dr. Ayyash said that the most prominent dental disease is tooth decay.

Tooth decay

"The tooth decay issue increased enormously during the last quarter of the last decade especially in countries where carbohydrates and sugar are largely

consumed." On queries regarding the causes of tooth decay, Dr. Ayyash said that research is still being conducted to provide the answers. "It is obvious that there is no one bacteria or virus which causes this disease," he said.

However, he said, there are many kinds of bacteria which exist in the mouth normally "transferring food particles, particularly sugar, into acid which gradually damages the enamel that protects the tooth."

Dr. Ayyash said there are many factors why tooth decay has continued to persist for such a long time.

One of which, he said, is ignoring dental health which includes the non-brushing of teeth properly and regularly, and the failure to treat such diseases at an early stage.

Preventive measures

Another factor, he said, is not taking preventive measures against disease. These "include high fluoride levels in drinking water, adequate dental health services as well as effective dental health educational programmes."

He added that tooth decay might be hereditary.

Good dental care and the prevention of gum diseases have been the major concern of the

UNRWA's medical department, but "priorities given to other diseases and services during the last few years indicate that dental health services require assessment," he said.

To that effect, Dr. Ayyash said a WHO team conducted a field study in four refugee camps in Jordan early last year. "Based on this study, a plan was drawn up for the development of a comprehensive dental health services programme," he said.

Giving a brief account of the plan, Dr. Ayyash said it includes an increase in manpower in the dental service sector as well as the provision of a sufficient number of assistants.

He went on to say that the plan also focuses on the importance of citizen participation by "taking care of their teeth and preventing gum diseases by attending health educational programmes."

"The awareness and the good will of the society in preventing diseases would avoid the occurrence of pain as well as results in a decrease in money spent," he said.

Dr. Ayyash stressed that effective prevention does not only require the initiative of the individual but also necessitates an actual commitment from all concerned individuals wherever they are.

Dr. Ayyash, at the end of his speech, stressed that dental health

services should reach all individuals whether healthy or sick, rich or poor, educated or ignorant and "there is no reason to prevent us from undertaking this step."

Education in dental care

The Field Education Officer, Atiyyeh Mahmoud, speaking on the occasion, said that the UNRWA medical services department started to give technical assistance to the education department through planning for effective health education in the various UNRWA schools in Jordan.

The schools today, he said, are working to turn out educated youngsters who understand the main ideas of health and sickness.

"It has been agreed upon that the student's good health is one of the main objectives of education," he said.

Mr. Mahmoud pointed out that orientating teachers on health education should be an essential part of their formal and practical training.

He said that health educational programmes allocate priorities based on outstanding issues "the most important of which is to prevent disease as a first step."

The master of the ceremony, Dr. Haider Abu Ghazaleh, introducing the Amman area dentist, Lamee'a Maraqa, said that she was the first full-time dentist to be appointed in UNRWA back in late 1967.

Dr. Maraqa, giving a brief account on the establishment of Dental Care Day, said that it was initiated by the Ministry of Education and the Jordan Dentists Association "so that everyone will be made aware of the importance of dental care and the importance of educating people, particularly school students."

It was decided that the 15th of October every year would be made the Dental Care Day.

She said a committee had been formed by the ministry and the association to work out health educational programmes, both in and outside schools, "to organise with the media ways to fulfil these objectives."

Pointing out the number of dentists registered in the association, Dr. Maraqa said there are 800, 100 of which work abroad while 150 work on the West Bank. "The rest are in Jordan distributed in the Hussein Medical Centre, Ministry of Health, UNRWA, and the private sector."

"In Jordan there is one dentist for every 4,000 people — a good ratio for a developing nation," she said, although she also pointed out that this is below the standard of developed nations in the west.

Controversy surrounds Grindlays Bank employees apartment block

By Salameh Ne'matt
Special to the Jordan Times

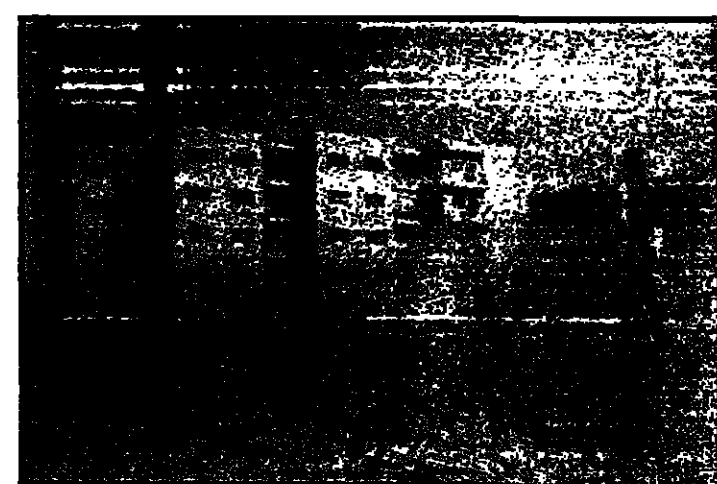
AMMAN — About 100 residents of a four-storey 24-apartment building owned by Grindlays Bank concede that the building might soon collapse but refuse to evacuate it.

Investigations being made by the Building Research Centre at the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) concerning the fate of the building located in front of the general bureau of accounts in Shmeisani, revealed that the building is on the verge of collapse and that it is a dilapidated condition due mainly to the absence of enough supporting concrete.

A similar report was submitted by SYGMA, a consulting engineers company, after tests were carried out on the building the results of which matched the ones submitted earlier by the RSS.

Amman's municipality organising department requested the management of Grindlays Bank to evacuate the building, whose residents are mainly employees of the bank, before Oct. 7, but to no avail.

The bank employees, who moved with their families to the 24-apartment building two years ago, each signed a contract with the bank to pay a total of JD 13,000 for their apartment, a proportion of which is deducted from



The apartment block owned by Grindlays Bank

their monthly salaries. At the end of last winter, the east supporting wall of the building collapsed and the residents discovered from the wreckage that the wall did not contain enough concrete, which provided the impetus for an approach the RSS and later SYGMA.

The bank finally decided to provide the residents with a loan of JD 18,000 per tenant to rent or buy a new apartment and to pay back the previous instalments from the new apartment's loan money.

A few residents agreed and

have already left their old apartments but the majority did not approve of the terms offered and decided to remain in the building in an effort to pressurise the bank and the municipality into granting better conditions.

A municipality official told the Jordan Times Tuesday that what concerns the municipality at this stage is the safety of the residents in the building and that it has nothing to do with legal procedures that might take place between the residents and the bank or the contractors who carried out the building project.

Royal reception to be erected at new airport

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Queen Alia International Airport authorities plan to build a royal reception at the airport and a tender for the project is expected to be announced in the coming month, according to a report by Al Ra'i newspaper Saturday. The pavilion will be used to accommodate royal

guests and prominent foreign dignitaries on their arrival and departure from Jordan.

The paper also said that another tender is shortly to be awarded to an international firm to carry out maintenance work on the airport's runways, main buildings and installations.

Pharmacists meeting slated

AMMAN (Petra) — The Second Jordanian pharmacists conference will open here on April 2. Several specialists from various countries will take part in the conference, which will be held under the slogan of "The Role of Pharmacist in Basic Health Care."

The Jordanian Pharmacists Association (JPA) also announced Wednesday that it will

participate in the eighth conference of the Arab Pharmacists union scheduled to open in Kuwait on December 18.

Several scientific researches and paper have been prepared by the Jordanian delegation to be submitted to the conference, according to the association president, Ghalib Al Sabbarini.

Jordan Times

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 The Jordan Times is published daily except on public holidays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

Israel's empty pocket

THOSE Israelis who ended Yoram Aridor's career as finance minister, just because he wanted to dollarise the Israeli economy, should not have been in such a hurry. For whoever replaces him is going to be just another scapegoat for the total failure of contemporary Israeli politics.

The fact that every Israeli will be made poorer by whatever the Shamir government does, in the way of launching austerity measures and others, does not actually mean that the Israelis will be losing much — for it is money unearned, and land usurped, that they now have, to start with. And who said that the U.S. would not come to Israel's rescue, with more dollars to construct Jewish settlements and funds to continue Israeli occupation of the occupied Arab territories, before the Israelis even realise it?

It may be true that Yitzhak Shamir will now face a difficult task in finding a replacement for Aridor acceptable to his coalition of right-wing and religious parties, so soon after his triumph in becoming prime minister. It may also be true that he now has to make the economy his top priority, rather than continue with pressing his favourite dream of completing the colonisation of the West Bank and Gaza and the rest of the occupied Arab territories. But these are about as much as Shamir will want to handle, as far as his government is concerned.

Nothing else — not the \$21 billion foreign debt, not the inflation rate of 131 per cent, not the shekel devaluation, not the hectic selling of commercial bank shares in the stampede for dollars, not the rising prices of basic commodities, not the closure of the Tel Aviv stock exchange, and certainly not the imminent start soon of debt repayments to the U.S. — will actually bother the terrorist-turned Israeli prime minister much. These may be economic worries for Israel's new-old government, but that is about it — worries, and nothing else.

In the absence of national frenzy and mourning over the 520 dead Israeli soldiers in Lebanon, there is something distinctly wrong and deformed in the present public frenzy and mourning over money in Israel today, an Israeli newspaper wrote the other day. "Why is it that Mr. Aridor is now effectively disgraced, but Mr. Sharon and Mr. Eitan (the architects of the invasion of Lebanon) can proudly strut the public stage?" It asked. "Were his (Aridor's) blunders greater and more important? And is the Likud's standing in public opinion to plunge because of economic mismanagement, when it did not plunge because of its woeful adventure in Lebanon?" the newspaper went on.

Do we need to add more to that? Or do we try to find out when and how the whole story of "Israel Economic" started?

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Consensus only solution

THE PROJECTED reconciliation conference in Lebanon is the only hope for the Lebanese people to arrive at a formula acceptable to all parties for shaping the future of Lebanon. All the warring factions realise this fact and want the conference to be held as soon as possible.

However, it is difficult to justify President Gemayel's statement to the New York Times in which he expressed his opposition to the conference and a national dialogue which was scheduled for October 20. Gemayel described the conference as a manoeuvre because he said those taking part in it would not be true Lebanese nationals. This attitude does not represent any positive stand on the part of the president and his government and is not a constructive step towards re-establishing stability and security in Lebanon. Throwing doubt and suspicion on the reconciliation conference does not help the government nor the other groups to achieve their goals, but it rather entails serious threats to the present calm and can only shake confidence in the president himself and his government.

The Lebanese government is invited to take positive steps towards safeguarding the country's unity and peace. The only path for achieving this goal is through a general consensus on a political formula drawn up by all factions to preserve their rights and secure a safe and stable future for the country.

Al Dustour: Gulf needs practical support

IN THE face of impending dangers in the Gulf region and in the light of foreign threats to the Arab countries there, the Arab Nation should rise to the new challenge and rally to the support of our brothers in the Gulf and confront the dangers threatening these nations. By "to rise to the challenges" we do not mean issuing verbal support for the Arab Gulf countries but acting to build up a national stand based on might that will secure peace for the Arabs in that part of the Arab World.

The Gulf region is drawing the interest of major powers and is also a hotbed of trouble. Our Arab brothers in that region are now feeling threats from foreign states while we recently heard Saudi and Kuwaiti officials declare that they would not stand by and watch other countries blocking the entrance to the Gulf region, because their interests would be put in jeopardy. This is an open call for all Arabs to rally to the support of their brothers in the Gulf. It is time that we took some practical steps to support the Arabs of that region.

Sawt Al Shaab: War or peace

THE DIFFERENT parties involved one way or another in the Middle East conflict or in finding solutions to it seem these days to be in a hurry all the time.

For the Israelis, they are facing a crippling economic crisis due to their involvement in Lebanon and the heavy cost of maintaining an army of occupation there. They also face the almost daily resistance attacks inside Lebanon and are continuously complaining of inflation, high living costs and the deteriorating economic situation at home. Israel cannot continue to paint itself as a small nation that is trying to house the displaced Jews from around the world and it cannot deceive the world any longer that it is a peace-loving nation, due to its occupation of other nations' territories. Therefore, the Israelis are desperate for an end to the present situation.

For the Americans who pretend they are the Arabs' friends, they cannot allow the Lebanese crisis to drag on for ever. They know that the Soviet Union is watching and will capitalise on any U.S. failures. Therefore the Americans are desperately trying to end the Lebanese crisis.

The Arabs, for their part, cannot bear any longer Israel's continued aggression and occupation of their lands. Egypt, for instance, is showing restlessness and disillusionment with the Camp David agreements and is trying to disengage itself from it. Lebanon, now suffering from many ills, cannot take any more destruction and civil wars. In view of all this, we wonder whether the Middle East region is heading towards war or meaningful efforts for achieving peace.

COME TO THINK OF IT

Learning by rote

IN AN article in Al-Rai newspaper last week, H.E. the Minister of Education seemed to be making a plea for a better place for the teacher in our society if he is to perform better. Teaching must be considered as a specialised profession just as the medical or engineering professions and the teacher must command a similar respect and appreciation. The minister went on to quote a line from a poem which says that "both teacher and medical doctor would not do their work conscientiously unless they are well rewarded". Materially that is. That may well be true with regard to every profession, but is that the question?

The question that has been with us for some time is what to do for a better system of education in Jordan for our children. Students are leaving schools and universities in greater numbers but with less ability to cope and they seem to be ill-equipped to make a better future for themselves and their country. The future decision makers have been discovered to know little about their present, let alone the future. The individual's response to simple situations is not so confident as it should be.

One university professor told me that at the root of it all is the process of learning by rote. He said that while he was giving lectures to students from a notebook, the students protested and asked him to do like other teachers did: print his notes and give them to the students so that they can memorise them! My own little child is suffering all week long from learning by rote and making us also suffer with him. Few stop to think that this lazy process may be at the root of radicalism and religious extremism in schools and universities in the

Third World. But I for one subscribe to this: It is because there is only so much that students, or teachers for that matter, can take after which they close down and stop thinking. They prefer to memorise and recite. They introvert and fight the world with slogans and appearances.

Come to think of it, the Minister's own prescription may well be viewed in that light. For to say that all will be well with education if the teachers are properly rewarded and well appreciated is to gloss over all that is wrong in the present system of education without even giving an answer as to how teachers are to be better rewarded. Society's homage to teachers does not automatically solve the problem of their pay. Such homage did not help the medical practitioners as they were being well overtaken in income by simple carpenters

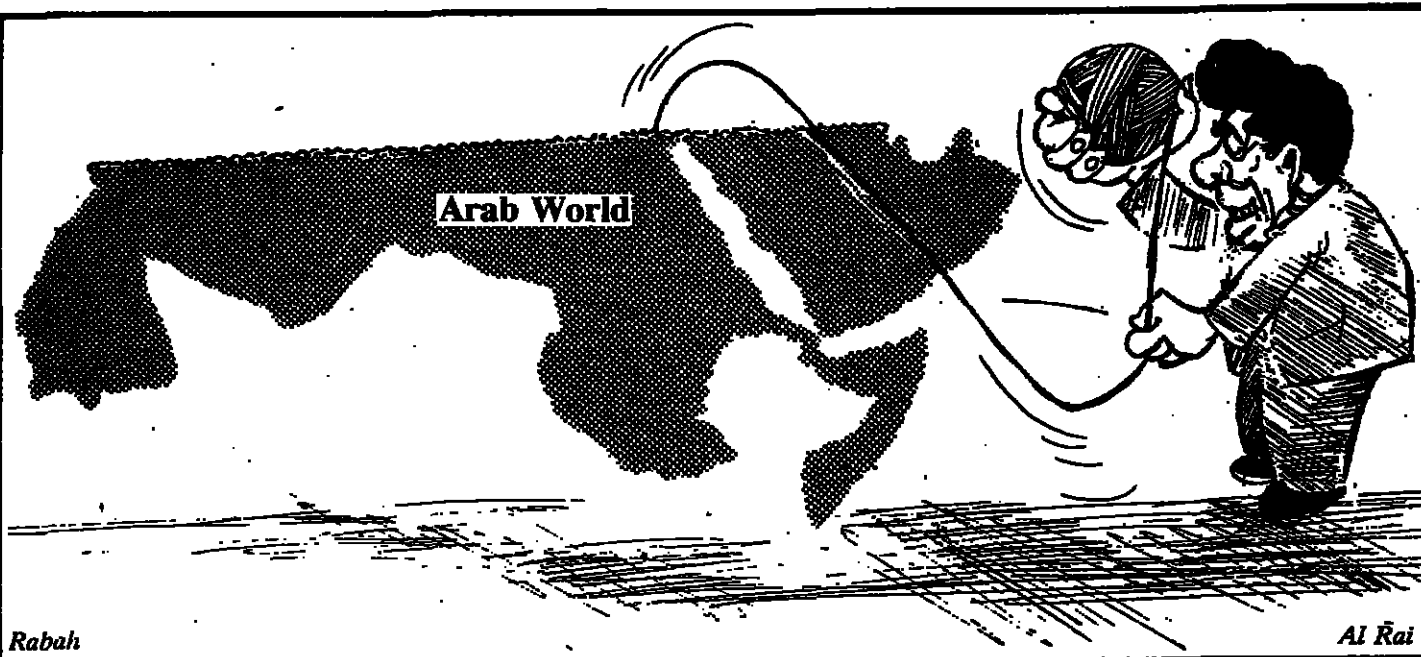
and plumbers. The law of supply and demand in our society is stronger than anybody's estimation of the true worth of you or me.

We were told by the Minister of Education in effect that if we need a better education for our children then we must be prepared to pay the teachers well. But the minister did not explain how well. He did not explain whether the proposed pay is perceived on the basis of keeping the teachers' incomes in line with the rising pointer of the annual rate of inflation and the general rise of the per capita income which stands now at about JD700 or a different basis altogether. The question is: Do the teachers want to preserve their share of the national cake or do they want a bigger share? Such questions are important because each one of them entails a different kind of thinking.

Teachers, as well as all government employees, deserve a continuous reappraisal of their incomes with systematic adjustments so that their shares of the national cake do not dwindle as the cake grows bigger and the shares of others grow proportionately or disproportionately bigger also. As tax payers, however, we are not entirely convinced that the failure of the system of education is due mainly to the teachers' poor pay which attracts poor quality teachers. One may have to think about allocations in the national budget for education and how well they are being managed as well as how much better they could be used to produce an all-round better system of education.

I personally am for a less centralised and a freer system whereby the private sector could be invited to carry more

of the burden where it can. The community colleges experiment is worth noting in this respect. The Ministry of Education, with more imagination, could put more emphasis on research, experimentation, the production of better books, preparation of better teachers and helping the people to help themselves. Too much reliance on government to do everything for the people will only perpetuate the present stagnation if it doesn't make it worse. By working according to the law of supply and demand, not against it, the Ministry of Education should be able to pay educators and planners as much as at least one educator in the Amman hoteling school is getting. (JD 2000 per month!) Paying teachers is all right. But what teachers? An educational philosopher who can break the system of learning by rote is worth a million!



North's drive for self-recovery leaves South with little oxygen

By John Rogers
Reuter

LONDON — The North-South dialogue on world economic problems, once the great hope for giving the poorest countries a better deal, appears to be heading for a dead end.

Two years after the first North-South summit at Cancun, Mexico, the gap between rich and poor nations over immediate action and long-term solutions seems unbridgeable. Progress has been slender. Third World economic prospects have remained bleak and bitterness has grown.

The summit in October 1981 increased Western awareness of developing countries' economic woes, but the gap between their attitudes remained wide.

Since Cancun, Western governments have concentrated on lifting their own economies from a global recession. Their concern over the Third World has been focussed chiefly on debt crises in richer developing nations such as Brazil which threaten disaster for Western banks.

At international conferences this year, demands by poor nations for urgent steps to boost their economies have failed to breach the West's defences.

President Reagan and other Western leaders, while differing on some North-South issues, insist their continuing recovery from recession will filter down to poorer trading partners.

The Commonwealth summit in New Delhi next month is the next forum at which poorer nations may try to advance their case for more development resources and reform of the Western-dominated world financial system set up after World War II.

"It's time to get angry, but no one seems ready to take the initiative," a Third World economist said after last month's International Monetary Fund (IMF) annual meeting in Washington which was widely seen by developing countries as a failure.

The role of Third World leader Indira Gandhi, chairman of the 101-nation Non-Aligned Movement since March, who will also chair the Commonwealth summit.

At the United Nations, she repeated calls for a new world order to replace the existing system which, she said, was based on domination and inequality between rich and poor countries.

Calling for dialogue between the West, Communist nations and developing ones, she said it was time for bolder moves in trade,

financial and technological cooperation and a daring initiative to eliminate global poverty by the end of the century.

But at her own mini-summit of world leaders, also at the U.N., the Third World was largely preaching to the converted. Western leaders at the meeting were all sympathetic to the plight of developing countries. They included French President Francois Mitterrand and prime ministers Olof Palme of Sweden, Pierre Trudeau of Canada and Ruud Lubbers of the Netherlands.

But Mr. Reagan, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, exponents of a tougher line towards the Third World, did not attend.

As a result, Third World diplomats saw the sessions as of limited use, although Mrs. Gandhi herself said they were a small step in improving understanding. The leaders had reached broad agreement on the need to make international financial institutions more responsive to development needs, she said.

But the same week, at the IMF meeting, the Reagan administration was keeping a tight hand on the purse strings of the IMF and World Bank, responsible respectively for balance of payments support to needy countries and development loans.

At U.S. instigation, maximum access to IMF funding was red-

uced. Allocation of new special drawing rights, the fund's reserve assets, was postponed until next spring, and there was no agreement on increased resources for the World Bank's soft loan affiliate, the International Development Association (IDA).

Developing countries were especially bitter over the reduced access to IMF funding, which followed a promising 48 per cent boost in quotas, or lending resources, approved by the IMF's policy-making Interim Committee last February.

"Most of what we thought had been achieved (in February) has been taken back," John Mitchell of the World Development Movement, Britain's main aid lobby, commented. "The meeting took several steps backwards."

The Non-Aligned Movement hit out this week at the industrialised world's "continuing absence of political will... to participate in effective action" on North-South problems. A parallel Third World body, The Group of 77, said a sustained global recovery was nowhere in sight.

The group listed stagnant international trade, volatile commodity prices, growing protectionist barriers and a heavy foreign debt burden among problems that were crushing economic activity in developing countries.

When Commonwealth leaders met in New Delhi, Mrs. Gandhi may try to use the 48-nation group-

ing of former British-ruled territories to press the Third World's case.

Monetary and financial issues will play a major part in the conference starting on Nov. 23, Commonwealth sources said.

Although the West as a whole is opposed to sweeping structural reforms which the Third World demands, Britain and West Germany are more favourable than the United States to boosting IMF and World Bank lending resources.

While no confrontation is expected at New Delhi, Commonwealth developing countries may urge Mrs. Thatcher to distance herself from headline U.S. stands.

"If there is any kind of softness in Britain's position which it finds difficult to express internationally, might express it at the Commonwealth conference," a senior Commonwealth source said.

Diplomats from developing countries hope the Delhi meeting will make practical proposals for the next steps in a process of consultation which could lead eventually to an international conference on reform of the world financial system.

Among their Commonwealth allies will be New Zealand Prime Minister Robert Muldoon, who together with Mr. Mitterrand, has been one of the few Western advocates of such a conference.

Who remembers Libyan flight 114?

In the early afternoon of Feb. 21, 1973, Libyan Arab Airlines Flight 114, a Boeing 727 with 113 men, women and children aboard, was nearing the end of its regular run from Tripoli, Libya, to Cairo. But it never made it.

As it was preparing to begin its descent to Cairo airport, the unarmed airliner developed compass problems and strayed off Egyptian-controlled airspace into the skies over the Sinai peninsula, then occupied Israeli forces. It turned out to be a fatal malfunction.

Within minutes, Israeli Phantom jet fighters had moved into action to intercept the plane. Within minutes after that, one of the fighters had shot it out of the sky. One hundred and six persons, including all but one of the mostly French crew, were killed. The victims were mainly Egyptians and Libyans, and included one American.

In a number of respects, both the attack itself and the reaction of the perpetrators were strikingly similar to the case of Korean Airlines flight 007, shot down by Soviet jets after its Boeing 747 had infringed their airspace. Far different, however, was the U.S. response to what happened.

President Richard Nixon and the State Department did, of course, deplore the loss of life (even though the U.S. charge in Libya at the time was not permitted to offer condolences in person). But what was missing was any official criticism of what the Israelis had done, not to mention any rhetoric on the scale of what has been said to the Soviets. Nor was the United States interested in taking any disciplinary action against Israel. It did not bring the issue to the United Nations. When the 30-member International Civil Aviation Organisation voted on June 5, 1973, to censure Israel for its attack, the United States and Nicaragua — then under the Somoza regime — abstained.

If the United States had been of a mind to, it could have found plenty to criticise.

Israel's first communique after the shooting was more ready than the first Soviet one was to acknowledge at least implicitly what had happened. But it was nonetheless a study in euphemistic vagueness. After saying the plane had entered Sinai airspace and flown over "sensitive" Israeli military areas "in a manner that aroused suspicion and concern," it noted that Israeli jets "approached the plane and instructed it to land in accordance with international regulations. When the plane took no notice of the instructions and the warning shots that were fired, it was intercepted by Israeli planes. The hit plane landed inside Sinai 20 kilometres and crashed." (Italics added.)

It was deft exercise in conveying the idea that the plane had been shot down with out describing specifically just how it had happened.

Not so vague, however, were the Soviet-style statements by Israeli officials in which they refused to concede that Israel was in any way to blame. Prime Minister Golda Meir, still referring to the incident, as the communique did, as a "crash," commented that in any case the French pilot was entirely to blame, because he "did not respond to the repeated warnings that were given in accordance with international procedure."

Transportation Minister Shimon Peres indicated his belief that the question of whether the plane made an innocent incursion or not was irrelevant. "There are international principles regarding the penetration of air space of another country whether del-

iberately or by error," he said. "To the best of my knowledge, Israel acted in accordance with those procedures."

Dayan talks tough

The next day, while Egypt was insisting that the pilot had an instrument failure and had thought he was over Egyptian territory — and after a surviving crewman claimed there had been no warning shots — Israel's attitude stiffened even further. Defence Minister Moshe Dayan announced that the decision for Israeli fighter planes to fire at the airliner had been taken at the military level, that he had not been consulted, but that he had reviewed the decision made and found no fault with it. He denied that there was any need at all for a formal inquiry.

Gen. Dayan added that if he had been a pilot of one of the Israeli planes, "I certainly would have been suspicious of the pilot's intention when he failed to heed warnings and elected — for whatever reason — to risk the lives of all his passengers rather than to follow the instructions to land... I haven't the slightest doubt that the captain heard the order to land and understood it. I don't like to blame a dead man for what happened, but he is the only one to be blamed."

Two days later, on Feb. 24, Gen. Dayan's case fell apart completely when the discovery of the "black box" containing records of the pilot's conversations with Cairo's control tower revealed that the Egyptian version of what had happened was the right one. In a new communique, Israel conceded that the pilot of the plane had "apparently thought that the plane was flying in Egyptian skies. When the Israeli planes appeared, the pilot thought that those were Egyptian MiGs circling around the plane." There was no conclusive evidence in the black box that any warning shots had been fired, or that if they had, the crew of the plane had heard them.

Gen. Dayan then made the first acknowledgement by any Israeli leader that Israel might bear at least a tiny part of the responsibility for the incident — although no more than a tiny part. The acknowledgement came in rather a back-handed way, as he announced why Israel would refuse to pay any compensation to the victims. His explanation: "In this case, we erred — under the most difficult of circumstances — but that does not put us on the guilty side."

The next day, Feb. 25, Israel's government changed its mind about the compensation — but not about the guilt. It announced it would pay compensation voluntarily, out of "humanitarian considerations" — but that it had determined that the Israeli air force had acted "in strict compliance with international law" in firing on the airliner.

The Israeli public appears to have accepted its government's view that the Israeli air force had no alternative. Mr. Terence Smith, the highly respected Israel bureau chief of The New York Times during that period, reported from Jerusalem on Feb. 24, three days after the attack, that although most Israelis "seemed genuinely to regret the incident, few if any would accept Israeli responsibility for the loss of innocent lives. Rather, they seemed to regard the downing of the airliner as justifiable."

This commentary is reprinted with acknowledgement to The Washington Report on Middle East Affairs, a newsletter published by the American Educational Trust.



مكتبة النجدة

Pope's attack on birth control revives moral dilemma for Catholics

By Stuart Harris
Reuters

ROME — Pope John Paul's latest stand against artificial birth control is likely to sharpen a painful moral dilemma for the world's 700 million Catholics.

Some churchmen express fears that the Pope's stand will have severe repercussions for a church faced with poverty and overpopulation in developing countries and dissenters in industrialised lands.

The Pope told a group of priests this month that artificial contraception was illicit and that couples who practised it were usurping God's power to decide on the creation of a human being.

In conjugal love, a married couple is called to give all of themselves to each other, the Pope said, adding: "Contraception is an objective refusal to give to the other, respectively, all that belongs to masculinity or femininity."

An unnamed bishop confided to the Italian daily La Repubblica that the church ran the risk of appearing inhuman on the issue, and added: "Let's face it... who amongst us (churchmen) really understands anything in these matters?"

"I remember (Melchite) Patriarch Maximus IV saying these views are the fruit of a psychosis of celibates who know nothing about this area of life," he said, quoting a comment made at the Second Vatican Council in the early 1960s.

Contraception became a major issue for the church in 1968 when Pope Paul VI issued his con-

troversial "Humane Vitae" (of human life) encyclical, shunning methods such as the pill, intra-uterine devices, the condom and sterilisation.

Catholics who want to avoid pregnancy can either abstain from sex or restrict it to infertile days in the menstrual cycle.

The encyclical dashed hopes that Pope Paul would back the softer line recommended by a papal commission in 1966, although papal spokesman Monsignor Fernando Lambruschini said then that a future relaxation of the teaching was not ruled out.

"Lambruschini's statement left a glimmer of hope, but now it's clear we can expect no change in doctrine during this pontificate," one priest told Reuters.

Pope John Paul said in a recent statement that he wanted the clergy to explain to their flocks the theological reasoning behind the church's stand against artificial birth control.

But many commentators say he has taken contraception out of the realm of moral obedience to church teaching and turned it into a hard and fast issue of obedience to church teaching and turned it into a hard and fast issue of obedience to divine law.

They say this could increase the conflict of priests torn between their obedience to the Vatican and their response to the needs of rank and file Catholics.

According to Archbishop John Quinn of San Francisco, 71 per cent of American priests are not against contraception and only 26 per cent refuse to grant absolution to Catholics who confess to practising artificial birth control.

"Of the 51 million Catholics in the U.S., 84 per cent don't agree with the ban," population expert Father Arthur McCormack from Britain told Reuters: "Either American Catholics are completely corrupt or there is something wrong with the ban."

"Pope John Paul has hardened the line, so more priests are likely to refuse absolution at confession. Many U.S. Catholics moved away from the church after the 1968 encyclical and these new statements could accentuate the trend," he said.

Priests in Western Europe frequently take a lenient view of contraception, according to McCormack, who directs the independent London-based Population and Development Office.

Protestant Churches are not opposed to artificial birth control provided it is acceptable to both partners, harmless to the couple and possible offspring, and does not irreversibly prevent the couple from having children in the future.

A study group set up by the council of French Protestant Federations in 1974 concluded: "We see no difference of intention between natural and artificial methods of birth control."

Father Giovanni Franzoni, a priest of the community of Saint Paul in Rome, described the distinction between natural and artificial methods as hypocritical: "A farmer who sows his seeds in the wrong season knows nothing will grow."

Some churchmen privately feel the Pope tends to treat the matter in the same way as other thorny issues such as homosexuality, abortion and the ordination of women

priests.

"Few Catholics favour abortion, as they believe every human being has a right to be born. But it's senseless to say that human beings have a right to be conceived, since there is no human life before conception," McCormack said.

"If human life is a gift, then it can be refused, otherwise it's not a gift but an imposition," Franzoni told the Rome daily Il Messaggero.

Birth control is an urgent matter for many developing countries facing chronic overcrowding, lack of jobs for the new generation and a scramble for the basics of life.

In a recent statement, the Pope implicitly acknowledged the plight of poor Catholics in Third World countries but said that God's law could not be tailored to fit various situations.

In Latin America, priests faced with the misery of extremely high birth rates will have a hard time explaining the theological reasoning determining which methods are approved and which are banned by the church, McCormack said.

In Catholic Brazil, the population rocketed from 93 million in 1979 to 119 million in 1980, while the population of Mexico increased from 48 to 67 million in the same period.

The Pope recently said that "couples should thoughtfully and prayerfully make decisions regarding the spacing of births and the size of their family," and added that the number of Catholics practising natural methods was increasing.

More liberal approach sought for abortion

By Jennifer McKay

LONDON — Many countries have liberalised their abortion laws in the past 15 years. Nevertheless, over a quarter of the world's people live in countries where abortion is not permitted or may only be done to save the life of a woman.

At the other end of the scale well over the third of the population of the world live in countries where abortion is allowed on demand, at least during the first three months of pregnancy. And for a quarter, social factors such as income and marital status may be taken into account.

These findings appear in the latest edition of Induced Abortion: A World Review by Christopher Tietze, which throws new light on the rapid changes in legal attitudes towards abortion in recent years.

Among the major countries

which liberalised their laws over the past 15 years are Austria, Canada, China, Cuba, Denmark, Finland, France, East and West Germany, India, Italy, Norway, Singapore, Sweden, Tunisia, the United Kingdom, and Yugoslavia. But four countries which eased their laws during this period — Iran, New Zealand, the United States — subsequently made them more restrictive. Four countries in eastern Europe (Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Romania) have introduced more restrictive legislation.

The main reasons given by those who advocate more liberal laws are to try to cut the morbidity and mortality associated with illegal abortions and to give poor women the same access to abortion as those who are better off. Only in a few countries, China, Singapore, and Tunisia for example, has the desire to curb population growth been used as an

argument in favour of more liberal abortion laws.

In fact, Mr. Tietze points out, most countries which allow abortion on request or on broadly interpreted social grounds have low birth rates and some even have policies aimed at boosting population growth.

Eastern Europe is exceptional in that countries there have introduced more restrictive legislation precisely because they have low birth rates. By limiting abortion they hope that more babies will be born.

In other countries opposition to more liberal laws usually comes from conservative groups on moral and religious grounds. The Roman Catholic Church is particularly vigorous in its opposition. Fundamentalist Protestants and Muslims also take a strong anti-abortion position.

In describing the legal status of abortion in various countries, the

Review emphasises that whatever rules exist may not be strictly enforced. Occasional abortions on medical grounds are probably tolerated in most countries where private (or even, in some cases, public health) doctors are willing to perform the operation.

In much the same way the existence of laws permitting abortion may not guarantee that any woman who wants one will be able to get one. They may not be the funds to provide this sort of medical care, or medical staff may be unwilling to take part in the operation. In the Netherlands the long-standing stalemate over the introduction of a new Dutch law legalising abortion is expected to be resolved before the end of the year, according to People correspondent Philip Meredith. This will bring the Netherlands into line with most of the West European countries — People News / Features

India may become world's most populous nation

By Moses Manoharan

Reuters

NEW DELHI — India's family planning programme, overcoming much of the suspicion aroused by an enforced sterilisation campaign in the mid-1970s, now averts millions of births by voluntary methods, health officials say.

More than 11 million Indians accepted birth control methods in 1982, the highest number in years, but despite this international experts say the country may still overtake China as the world's most populous nation by the next century.

The experts said recent successes are unlikely to be repeated

because a baby boom in the last two decades has swollen the reproductive age group into which three million Indians enter for every million that leave.

Now 711 million, they say, India's population has doubled since the country gained independence from Britain in 1947 and could double again with 32 years unless the rate of increase, now estimated to be higher than that of China's, is checked.

"We are on shifting sands really and the gap between what we need to do and what we achieve is getting bigger," the director of the Family Planning Foundation of India, Rami Chhabra, told Reuters.

Mrs. Chhabra said that even last year's success was only 85 per cent

of the government's target for 1982 and was therefore a major cause for concern.

Experts believe the success cannot be sustained because statistics show the high figure was largely due to the acceptance of birth control by middle-aged women after the stigma of the enforced campaign was removed.

This group's demand has now been met and what remains is the much larger number of young people, Mrs. Chhabra said, adding that not much had been done to bring them within the net.

Government officials say streamlining of family planning procedures and shifting of emphasis from sterilisation, which young people do not favour, to methods

like the condom and the pill will encourage family planning among young people.

Health guides are also being trained to bring family planning services to villagers' doorsteps, they say.

About six million women still resort to illegal abortions annually, whereas only 400,000 have legal ones, because facilities for legal operations were inadequate or women did not even know they existed, Mrs. Chhabra said.

"It is a failure of our health and education systems," Mrs. Chhabra said, adding that the campaign could soon reach a plateau with only middle-aged women and a few enlightened young people using birth control.

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SPORTS

Champions Liverpool gives West Ham footballing lesson

LONDON (R) — West Ham, early season pretenders to Liverpool's English League crown, were given a footballing lesson by the champions in the Upton Park mud on Saturday.

The London side were beaten 3-1 to lose not only their 100 per cent home record in the League but also the top spot in the first division.

The new leaders are Manchester United, who jumped above Ipswich, beaten 3-0 at home by Queen's Park Rangers, Southampton and West Ham by beating West Bromwich 3-0 at home.

West Ham, with 15 goals to their credit in four previous League matches, must have fancied their chances against Liverpool, who by their own high standards had made a modest start to the season.

But, playing with a galeforce wind at their backs, the champions had the match in their pockets in the opening 24 minutes with two goals from Michael Robinson — his first in the League for Liverpool.

Robinson, a close season buy from Brighton, went on to complete his hat-trick in the 74th minute and the champions stroled to victory despite having Craig Johnston sent off for a foul on West Ham skipper Billy Bonds.

West Ham's only consolation was an own goal by Mark Lawrenson a couple of minutes from the end.

On a day of high winds and torrential rain, second-placed Southampton had their hopes of going to the top of the table dashed by a cloudburst at Leicester.

The match against the division's bottom club was abandoned midway through the first half with the

pitch awash.

Manchester is well known for having more than its fair share of rain but the elements did not seem to bother the F.A. Cup holders. They cruised home with goals by Arthur Graham, a £60,000 close season bargain buy from Leeds, Norman Whiteside and Arthur Albiston.

In-form Queen's Park Rangers slipped into third place in the table behind West Ham with their fifth successive League win. Simon Stanford and John Gregory were their marksmen.

Manchester United, with 19 points, have a one-point advantage over West Ham, with Queen's Park Rangers, Southampton and Liverpool behind them.

Cauthen triumphs in Champion Stakes

NEWMARKET, England (R) — American Jockey Steve Cauthen rode an inspired race on Comorant Wood and triumphed narrowly in a compelling finish to the Champion Stakes horse race here on Saturday.

Cauthen and his 18-1 mount were last with three furlongs left in the one mile two furlongs event.

Second leg of the Autumn Double when he produced a telling burst to spatch a final stride victory.

Comorant Wood won by a head from second-placed Flame of Tara, with Miramar Reel in third place a short head behind in a 19-strong field.

Cauthen, fourth in the Cam-

cketed together on 17.

The three clubs on 16 points include Luton, who escaped relegation last season with a goal in the closing minutes of their final League match. England under-21 international Paul Walsh scored in the 74th minute on Saturday to earn his side a 1-0 win at Everton.

The Luton defence, which conceded 21 goals in the opening nine games last season, have let in a miserly eight at the same stage this term.

Aston Villa, champions in 1981, and Tottenham kept among the chasing clubs with contrasting victories.

England striker Peter Withe scored the only goal in a tedious home win over Birmingham, while Scotland international Steve Archibald netted twice in a thrilling 3-2 away win over Wolverhampton.

Archibald, dropped by manager Keith Burkinshaw for not pulling his weight in a League match against Coventry early in the season, has scored six goals since being back in favour.

bridgeshire Handicap, the first leg of the Autumn Double, said after riding his 98th winner of the season: "I didn't do anything wrong but it was a rough race because the wind made it so difficult. If my lilly had found a clear run she would have won by five lengths."

Tolomeo, ridden by Italian Gianfranco Dettori, was second past the post but was disqualified after a stewards' enquiry.

Bajan Sunshine, the joint favourite, won a typically fluctuating Casarawich — the second feature race here Saturday over two and a quarter miles.

Bajan Sunshine, ridden by Brian Rouse, was favoured with Mayotte, who looked like a winner with three furlongs left.

Egyptian-Jordanian chess competition begin

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Egyptian National chess team arrived in Amman Friday to hold 6-day meetings with the Royal Jordanian Chess Club national team.

The first round of competition started Saturday 3 p.m. at the Amra Forum Hotel. His Highness Prince Ra'ad led the Jordanian team in the first round on behalf of His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad the president of the club.

The other five rounds will be held between the two teams at the Royal Jordanian Chess Club beginning Sunday.

The visiting Egyptian team consists of Mohammad Mahmoud, Hassan Ghanimah, Eid Zeine, Ahmad Hamed, Yussef Ghazali, Ahmad Ali. The team is headed by Mohammad Nabil and Fouad Sayed.

The Jordanian team consists of Prince Ra'ad, Suhail Mallah, Hafez Bakr, Yahya Hamdan, Saifan Bukhari, Hussein Battikhi and Malek Bukhari.

Jordan reaches finals of junior Asian swimming

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Junior Asian Swimming Championships in Hong Kong started Friday. The Jordanian participating team reached the finals and results of the first day competitions were as follows:

Jordan reached the finals through Ali Wazani. Rima Abu Mansour, Ehab Qassab, Emad Wazani.

The overall results showed Jordan's Ehab Qassab in seventh position in the 400 metres race, Emad Wazani in fourth position in the 400 metres butterfly, Rima Abu Mansour in eighth in the 100 metres breaststroke. In the 200 metres relay Jordan got seventh place.

The president of the Jordanian team, Abdullah Abu Nuwar, delivered a speech on behalf of the Middle Eastern countries during the official meeting held for all presidents of participating delegations.

National table tennis team to train in China

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordanian National table tennis team will be leaving to China early next year, in preparation for the Ninth Arab Table Tennis Championship which will be held in Amman August 19-24. Ghazal Hashem, coach of the Jordanian national team said.

He added that the visit to China has been discussed with the Chinese Table Tennis Federation during Jordan's participation in the first Asian Cup Championship held in China. The issue he said, will be discussed at the next session of the Jordanian Table Tennis Federation.

Dutchman Sosonko beats Karpov

TILBURG, Netherlands (R) — Dutchman Genna Sosonko beat World Chess Champion Anatoly Karpov in the third round of an international Grand Masters tournament on Friday.

Sosonko led throughout the duel which lasted three hours. Karpov, who is now in eighth position in the overall standings will finish an adjourned match against his compatriot Lev Polugayevsky in which he is slightly ahead.

Piquet takes world title with rivals in the pits

KYALAMI, South Africa (R) — Nelson Piquet of Brazil cruised to his second World Motor Racing Championship in the last race of the season on Saturday while the title dreams of Frenchmen Rene Arnoux and Alain Prost ended in the pits.

With the two Frenchmen sidelined by mechanical failure, Piquet settled for third place in the South African Grand Prix, which was won by his Brabham teammate Riccardo Patrese of Italy.

It was Piquet's second championship in three years and a turning point for turbo-charged engines, which powered the first six finishers and ended the long domination of the conventional Ford Cosworth machine.

Italian Andrea de Cesaris was second on Saturday in an Alfa Romeo, while Briton Derek Warwick in a Toleman clinched fourth place, but the main interest was who of Prost, championship leader Saturday this morning, Arnoux or Piquet would become 1983 title winner.

Piquet went ahead from the start and by the ninth lap, when Arnoux's Ferrari limped into the pits pouring smoke, only Prost, an

accident or a breakdown stood between him and the title.

Prost's chance of becoming the first French champion broke down with his Renault on the 35th lap and Piquet knew he had only to finish in the first four to be champion.

"Everything is perfect," said Piquet afterwards. "I always had the race under control. I went as quick as I could at first but after I saw that Prost was out I started to take it easy."

He was overhauled by Patrese on the 60th lap but told reporters he thought he could have won the race as well as the championship had he not had the title on his mind.

Prost was magnanimous in defeat: "We lost the World Championship against an exceptional car, an exceptional engine and an exceptional driver. There is no shame," he said.

It was Piquet's fourth win this season and gave him the title with 59 points to Prost's 57. Arnoux was third on 49 and compatriot Patrick Tambay came fourth with 40 points.

One of the best performances

came from veteran Niki Lauda, until Saturday the only current driver to have won two world titles.

Teeth at the end of lap one, the 34-year-old Austrian powered his McLaren through the field and overtook Piquet late in the race before dropping out with turbocharger problems five laps from the end.

The 1982 title-winner, Keke Rosberg of Finland, made it three world champions in the top five by bringing his brand new Williams-Honda home behind Derek Warwick of Britain.

Rosberg's day got off to a fraught start when an engine blew up in untimed practice, forcing his mechanics to make a quick change.

However, the reliability shown by the turbocharged Honda engine in the race Saturday must bode well for the Williams team next year.

It was a terrible day for the French drivers. Apart from Arnoux and Prost, pole position holder Patrick Tambay dropped out after 56 laps while Jacques Laffite put his Williams in the catch fence on the second lap.

McEnroe, Leconte to meet in Australian indoor final

SYDNEY (R) — Top-seeded American John McEnroe will meet fifth seed Henri Leconte of France in Sunday's Australian Indoor Tennis Championship final after both won their semifinal clashes here Saturday.

McEnroe had an easy 6-4, 6-1 victory over unseeded compatriot Chip Hooper, whose booming serves were no match for the Wimbledon champion's versatility.

Australian Paul McNamee bowed out of the \$255,000 tournament after fighting doggedly on despite an injury to his right foot. He succumbed 6-7, 6-4, 6-0

to the French youngster.

After losing the second set, he took two pain-killers, but his restricted movement lost him the final set in just 18 minutes. He said later he jarred his foot late in the first set.

"I couldn't run at all," a despondent McNamee said. "I didn't want Henri to know I had a bad foot unless I lost the second set, so I decided to just play it out. But by the third set I had to do something."

Leconte, who caused the biggest upset of the tournament when he beat second seed Ivan Lendl Friday, will be playing McEnroe for the fourth time as the American defends his title, this year worth \$40,000, for the third consecutive year.

Leconte, a 20-year-old Parisian, has lost all three previous encounters with McEnroe, but believes he has a 50-50 chance of winning here.

"I will be playing my usual attacking game and will be going for winners," said Leconte, who has won only one Grand Prix tournament in his career, against

Swedish teenager Mats Wilander in Stockholm last year.

McEnroe described the Frenchman as a "hot and cold" player. "He seems to play brilliantly and then go off his game with some silly errors."

Pakistan tops qualifiers in world squash

AUCKLAND (R) — Pakistan, Egypt, Australia and England qualified for the final eight after unbeaten runs through the preliminary pools of the VISA World Squash Team Championship here on Saturday.

Joining them in the intermediate round to decide the semi-finalists were runners-up Canada, the United States, Sweden and New Zealand.

Egypt won the toughest match of the tournament so far, scoring a vital 2-1 victory over New Zealand and gaining a more favourable draw in the intermediate pool events which open on Sunday.

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ECONOMY

NEWS IN BRIEF

IBM boosts profits by 22 %

NEW YORK (R) — International Business Machines Corp (IBM) Friday reported a 22 per cent increase in third quarter profits. Profits rose to \$1,303 million or \$2.14 a share from \$1,044 million or \$1.75 a share in last year's third quarter. Revenues rose 15.1 per cent to \$9,406 million. IBM said in a statement that its profits for the first nine months of 1983 rose 24.5 per cent to \$3,622 million, compared with \$2,909 million during the same period last year.

Radical wealth changes predicted

MOSCOW (R) — The American state of Kansas will probably be a desert in 40 years while Siberia should be growing into a fertile farming zone, according to Soviet climatologists. TASS said Friday recent analyses by Soviet scientists pointed to a rise in the earth's average temperature of two degrees Centigrade (3.5 Fahrenheit) by the year 2025. They said this increase would mean radical changes in weather patterns which could transform many areas of the world, especially as rainfall patterns would be affected.

Major bank collapse headed off

WASHINGTON (R) — Federal officials Friday headed off one of the biggest bank failures in U.S. history when they rescued a major Texas bank from collapse by merging it with another bank. First National Bank of Midland, hit by bad energy loans, was merged with Republic Bank of Dallas, Texas, which assumed the failed bank's deposits of about \$622 million. The new bank, called Republic Bank First National Midland, will open on Monday.

Ford, Otosan launch partnership

ISTANBUL (R) — Ford motor company of the U.S. and the Turkish automotive firm Otosan Saturday launched a partnership to build Ford vehicles in Turkey. Officials from Otosan's parent company, KOC Holding, said. Under the partnership agreement, Ford acquires 30 per cent of Otosan's capital, which gradually increased to 5.6 billion lira (\$22.4 million) in 1986 from one billion lira (\$4 million).

USSR to issue petrol credit cards

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union is introducing special credit cards for use at petrol stations next year in a bid to break a massive black market in illegal fuel sales, the trade union daily Trud announced Friday. At present petrol and diesel are sold for special coupons. Private motorists often obtain the coupons at cut rates from transport drivers who deliberately order more than they require. Trud said that in the Siberian city of Novosibirsk alone a swindle-proof credit card system would save the state 500,000 roubles (\$660,000) a year.

Japanese firms win Saudi job

TOKYO (R) — Three Japanese companies have won a \$390 million contract to build a desalination plant to provide water to the Saudi Arabian cities of Mecca and Taif, a spokesman for one of the companies, Mitsubishi Heavy Industry Limited, said Friday. The other companies are Penta-Ocean Construction Company Limited and Mitsubishi Corporation. The contract for the plant to provide 223,000 tonnes of water daily from 10 desalination units is valued at \$390 million.

Hong Kong fixes currency

HONG KONG (R) — The Hong Kong government, in a new move to bolster sagging international confidence in the British colony's battered economy, said Saturday the local dollar would be fixed at a rate of 7.80 to the U.S. dollar from Monday.

The announcement by financial secretary Sir John Brembridge ended weeks of uncertainty over the local currency, hard hit by concern about Hong Kong's future.

The new rate compares with 8.26 on Thursday — Friday was a local public holiday — and a record low of 9.50 to the U.S. unit three weeks ago.

It fell then in a wave of panic selling because of uncertainty about continuing negotiations between China and Britain.

China has said it intends to regain sovereignty when a lease under which Britain holds most of Hong Kong and the new territories expires in 1997.

Uncompromising statements coming out of Peking during the last year have eroded much of the

colony's usual ebullience.

Sir John told a news conference shortly after banks closed at noon that a fixed rate must be preferable to the floating dollar exchange rate used since 1974.

"We cannot run the risk of further spiralling depreciation, with the rampant inflation and distress which that would bring to all our community. A return of confidence in our currency is essential," Sir John said.

He added that the dollar's decline in recent weeks was tending to "feed on itself in an unstable and irrational manner" although the fall was not justified by the state of the economy which was doing very well.

"There is little unemployment and exports are booming. Hong Kong has substantial foreign cur-

rency reserves, a generally liquid banking system and virtually no government debt," he added.

He also announced that from Monday the 10 per cent withholding tax collected by the government on interest paid to holders of Hong Kong dollar deposit accounts would be lifted.

Foreign currency accounts here are already exempt from the tax and this has encouraged savers — ranging from factory workers to company directors — to invest in U.S. dollars rather than hold the freely convertible local currency.

Hong Kong's banknotes are issued by two big private banks, and not the government as in other countries, and Sir John said they would be required to back each local dollar with foreign exchange.

The rate obtained by a bank's customers would continue to be determined by market forces. "But will in practice be close to the fixed rate of 7.80 equals one U.S.

dollar," he said.

Sir John said there may be upward pressure on local interest rates — now 16 per cent for blue-chip borrowers — in the short term. But interest rates should fall when stability in currency exchanges "becomes evident and accepted."

The government had been under pressure from many groups, including China which depends on the colony for much of its foreign currency earnings, to stabilise the local dollar.

The currency's decline was the most visible sign of the gloom that has settled over Hong Kong.

The government recently took over one bank after a run by depositors.

U.S. and French interests provided an infusion of fresh funds into another.

The colony has also seen the collapse of Carrian Holdings, a high-flying property group, and a major textile company has been put into the hands of receivers.

Manila seeks time to repay debts

NEW YORK (R) — The Philippines Friday requested a 90-day suspension of repayment of principal on debts owed to banks while it works out its financing needs for 1983 and 1984.

Manufacturers Hanover Trust Company, as chairman of a 10-bank advisory committee which met Philippine Prime Minister Cesar Virata in New York, said the panel endorsed the request.

The Philippines, which has a

total foreign debt of \$18 billion, is the first Asian country among many developing nations which have run into debt repayment problems.

It has suffered flight of capital, a loss of banking confidence and a sharp deterioration in its balance of payments since opposition leader Benigno Aquino was murdered in Manila on Aug. 21.

Under the suspension sought

Friday, repayments falling due over the next 90 days would be extended for 90 days. The Philippines is meanwhile expected to seek a new timetable for repayment of part of its debt.

The sharp deterioration in the Philippines' balance of payments has left the country unable to finance the deficit from its international reserves, banking sources said.

The payments deficit in the third quarter soared to \$800 million, bringing the total for the first nine months to more than \$1.3 billion compared with a government target for the year as a whole of \$800 million.

The government has estimated that \$200 million of capital left the country between July and September, but many bankers say the total could be substantially higher.

S. Korean cabinet reshuffle not expected to affect economic policy

SEOUL (R) — President Chun Doo Hwan's decision to replace his prime minister and 11 other ministers Friday after Sunday's bomb blast in Rangoon killed four top ministers is not expected to affect South Korea's stable economic growth policy.

Mr. Chun reshuffled the cabinet as tension ran high between South Korea and communist North Korea, which has broadcast a threat that if President Reagan goes ahead with a visit to the South next month "he will not escape a stern punishment."

Seoul's foreign ministry said Saturday South Korea was confident it could protect Mr. Reagan during the visit and the U.S. State Department said it was taking the threat seriously but was confident Mr. Reagan would be protected.

Pyeongyang increased the tension Friday when it accused South Korean troops of intruding into the northern part of the demilitarized zone separating the two countries and firing on a northern post — a charge denied by the United Nations command.

Before Friday's reshuffle the 22-member cabinet resigned in accordance with South Korean practice and a government spokesman said the move would help "provide a turning point in state affairs" after the blast which killed 17 South Koreans.

But political analysts said Mr. Shin Byong-Hyun's reappointment as deputy premier and concurrent economic planning minister, a post he held from 1980 to January 1982, and the promotion of officials from two other key economic ministries to full ministers reflected Mr. Chun's resolve to continue his policy of stable growth in the country's economy.

The late president Park Chung-Hee, assassinated in 1979 after 18 years in power, had stressed high economic growth rates, marked by excessive investment in heavy industries which resulted in chronic high inflation.

But Mr. Chun abandoned Park's policy after elections in September 1980, saying the people's welfare and the balanced

growth of industries were more important.

Aided by competent technocrats, he managed last year to bring down inflation to single-digit figures, the lowest for more than 20 years.

U.S.-educated Mr. Shin succeeded Suh Suk-Joon, Suh and chief presidential economic adviser Kim Jae-Ik, who both died in the bomb blast, were among handful of officials credited with responsibility for South Korea's recent fast development.

Kim's place has been taken by Mr. Sakong Il, a former senior researcher at the Korea Development Institute, a government think-tank.

Mr. Kim Jin-Ho, vice-commerce industry minister became ministry head replacing Kim Dong-Whie, who helped forge the country's energetic export drive.

Vice-Energy Minister Choi Dong-Kyu was also promoted to full minister succeeding Suh Sang-Chul.

Both Kim Dong-Whie and Suh Sang-Chul were among those killed

in Burma while accompanying Mr. Chun on a visit.

Securing energy and other resources is key job in South Korea which lacks natural resources.

Finance Minister Kang Kyong-Shik, attacked by opposition political parties for failing to prevent a series of recent banking and financial scandals, was reassigned as chief presidential secretary.

The replacement of Prime Minister Kim Sang-Hyup came after the ruling Democratic Justice Party (DJP) called on him to play a more active role in bridging the gap between the government and the people of South Korea, where 189 people died in an armed civilian uprising in 1980 in the southern city of Kwangju.

Political analysts saw the call as a veiled criticism of the low-key activities of Mr. Kim, former president of the privately-owned Korea University.

The new premier, Mr. Chin Ie-Chong, 61, was DJP chairman and had previously been an opposition member of parliament.

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1983

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: This is the day for you to put charm and beauty into your surroundings and into your life generally and to coordinate your aims and nature with those about around you.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Show partners that you are loyal and will go along with their ideas as well as state your own and be most cooperative.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Study into credit, civic and business affairs and handle them wisely. Be sure to exercise caution in these matters.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Study the data that will help you to get ahead more quickly and with less effort on your part. Be wary of those around you.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Early plan how to best work out those business matters that need your attention today, then get busy on them.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Plan just how to have more concord with fine individuals whom you know or want to become acquainted with.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Talk over with more modern co-workers how you too can get ahead faster, and then you can accomplish a good deal.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You need more recreation so plan for it now and relieve tensions you are under. Then do something thoughtful for a friend.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You are able to get your home in such fine condition now that everyone will be pleased. This will result in greater harmony.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Get out early to see the individuals who are fascinating to you and have known for some time.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Study into more original ways to gain a greater abundance in the future and you can soon gain assets.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Your magnetism is high today and can attract the right persons who can be of assistance to you in some way.

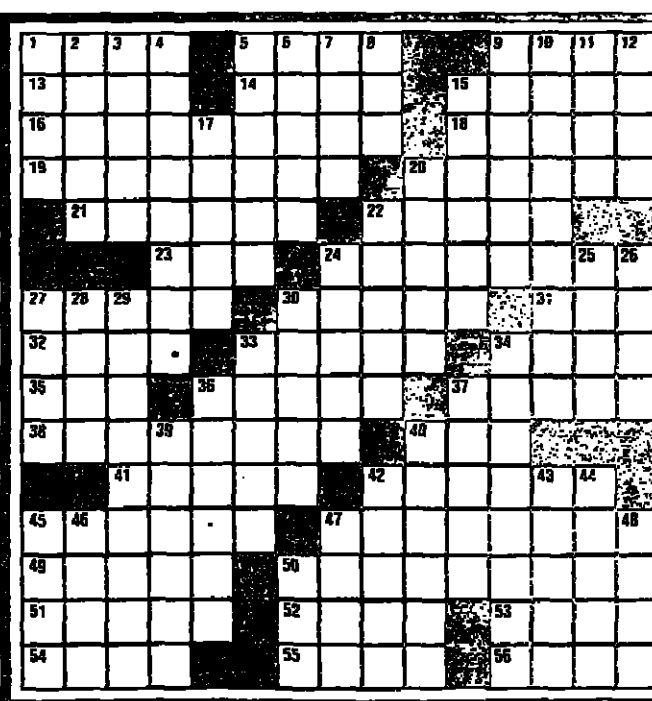
PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You have some inspired ideas now that should be put in motion quickly, and you can gain from them.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... He or she will be one of those charming young persons who will have magnanimous ideas to be put in motion. Since your progeny is of the New Age, be sure to give a very extensive education to prepare for great accomplishment.

"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

THE Daily Crossword by William Lendis

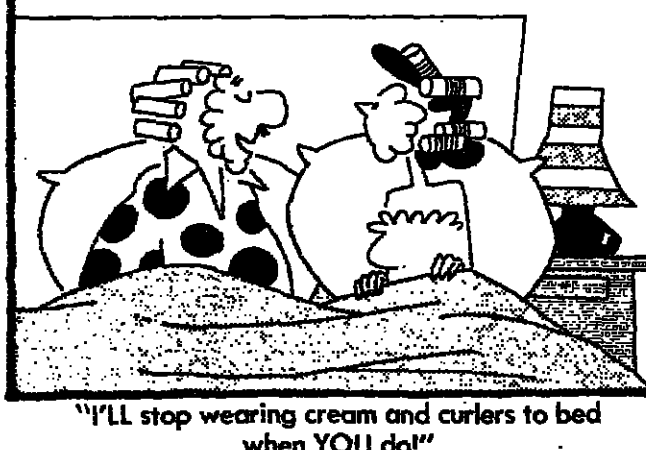
ACROSS	23 Coat or	42 Cocky's	17 Macho
1 Actress	24 Puttered	45 Boon it up	20 Tear ripper
5 Band of	27 — the moon	47 Bother	22 PGA milieu
6 Kaffir	30 Tawp	48 Wed in	24 House-like
9 Weather	31 FDI pre-	50 Pussies	25 Once, once
abbr.	32 Like two	51 Got sick	27 Theatrical
13 Algerian	33 Ramboned	52 "Kiss Me"	28 Egyptian
port	34 Superior	53 Mrs. Muffin	29 Sacred
14 Footpath	35 Russian	54 Treachery	30 Bull
15 Footpath	36 Russian	55 River of	29 Papyrus
16 Left-handed	37 Cap of tea	56 Chief	31 Guest
18 Pleads	38 Showing	57 location	32 Effort
20 Made faint	40 "My — Sal"	58 Comes to	33 Lehmann
21 Fitting	41 Comes to	59 head	34 Dock posts
22 Jousting	59 head	60 One's	35 — the cat
prop	60 One's	61 head	36 (dared)
Yesterday's Puzzle Solvers:	61 head	62 head	37 Counterfeit
1 VAC	62 head	63 head	38 Taka place
2 EPICS	63 head	64 head	39 Logging
3 LOMA	64 head	65 head	40 Pottery
4 AND	65 head	66 head	41 Seedy's
5 GROUT	66 head	67 head	42 mistress
6 AVAL	67 head	68 head	43 Ebbot
7 GOUT	68 head	69 head	44 Ebbot
8 TRAVEL	69 head	70 head	45 Ship wad
9 EUBIC	70 head	71 head	46 Nodded
10 EUBIC	71 head	72 head	47 Unchecked
11 EUBIC	72 head	73 head	48 QED used
12 EUBIC	73 head	74 head	49 QED used
13 EUBIC	74 head	75 head	50 QED used
14 EUBIC	75 head	76 head	51 QED used
15 EUBIC	76 head	77 head	52 QED used
16 EUBIC	77 head	78 head	53 QED used
17 EUBIC	78 head	79 head	54 QED used
18 EUBIC	79 head	80 head	55 QED used
19 EUBIC	80 head	81 head	56 QED used
20 EUBIC	81 head	82 head	57 QED used
21 EUBIC	82 head	83 head	58 QED used
22 EUBIC	83 head	84 head	59 QED used
23 EUBIC	84 head	85 head	60 QED used
24 EUBIC	85 head	86 head	61 QED used
25 EUBIC	86 head	87 head	62 QED used
26 EUBIC	87 head	88 head	63 QED used
27 EUBIC	88 head	89 head	64 QED used
28 EUBIC	89 head	90 head	65 QED used
29 EUBIC	90 head	91 head	66 QED used
30 EUBIC	91 head	92 head	67 QED used
31 EUBIC	92 head	93 head	68 QED used
32 EUBIC	93 head	94 head	69 QED used
33 EUBIC	94 head	95 head	70 QED used
34 EUBIC	95 head	96 head	71 QED used
35 EUBIC	96 head	97 head	72 QED used
36 EUBIC	97 head	98 head	73 QED used
37 EUBIC	98 head	99 head	74 QED used
38 EUBIC	99 head	100 head	75 QED used



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THE BETTER HALF. By Harris

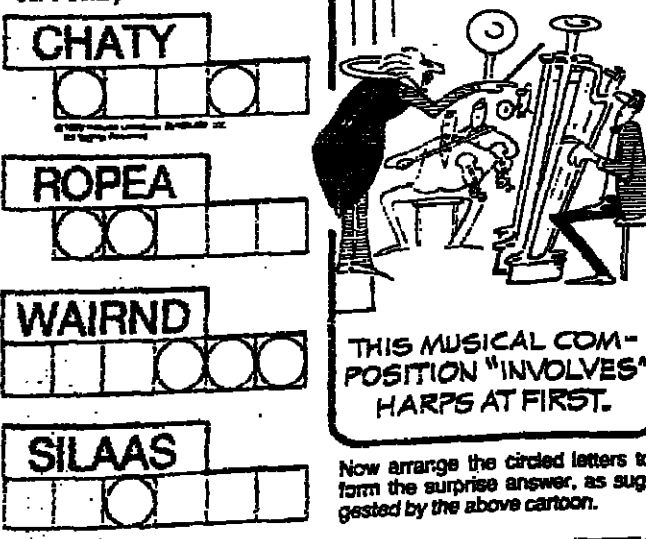
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JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Answer here: "CHATY" (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: SNACK PIPER MASCOOT NICELY

Answer: They hush up reports of murders—SILENCERS

WORLD

Nicaragua, facing oil shortage, seeks to boost air, naval power

MANAGUA (R) — Nicaragua has announced tough fuel rationing and said it is seeking combat planes and warships after attacks by U.S.-backed insurgents crippled fuel supplies and the U.S. Exxon Oil Company cut off the country's oil imports.

Daniel Ortega, chief of the left-wing governing junta, told a press conference Friday: "The government of Nicaragua is seeking from different governments of the world military means to defend our coasts and our air space."

He gave no details but officials said the statement referred to combat planes and warships and governments concerned included the Soviet Union and Cuba.

There have been persistent reports that the Sandinista junta was negotiating to buy Soviet-made

MiG warplanes for its small and obsolescent air force.

Mr. Ortega said the government would take "immediate and energetic steps" to ration fuel — prompted, diplomats said, by the prospect of a total halt in oil supplies.

"This is an unprecedented crisis," said a Latin American diplomat. "The country is running out of petrol and diesel."

On Monday U.S.-backed insurgents based in Honduras struck at Corinto, Nicaragua's biggest port, causing a huge fire which destroyed vital fuel tanks and for-

warded they would sink tankers bound for Nicaragua.

Mr. Ortega said the government would stop chartering tankers to carry oil from Mexico to Nicaragua.

Mexico is Nicaragua's sole supplier of crude, all of which is carried by Exxon tankers, and Mr. Ortega said the decision effectively cut off Nicaragua's fuel supplies.

The suspension of shipments came a few weeks after the U.S. Central American Command (FON), right-wing rebels armed and financed by the United States,

warned they would sink tankers bound for Nicaragua.

Mr. Ortega implicitly warned Nicaragua's 2.7 million people, already facing shortages of many basic goods, that they would have to tighten their belts further.

The latest measures by the ruling Sandinista National Liberation Front coincided with a visit here by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Langhorne Motley, the highest-ranking member of the Reagan administration to have talks with Nicaraguan leaders for more than a year.

He was to be followed Saturday by Mr. Reagan's bipartisan commission on Central America headed by former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger on the final leg of a tour of the troubled region.



A demonstrator is still playing his instrument as he is taken away by West German riot policemen during a sit-in by anti-nuclear demonstrators in Bremerhaven. (A.P. wirephoto)

Joint shuttle flight delayed

NEW YORK (R) — This month's joint U.S.-European manned space shuttle mission has been postponed for at least 30 days because of a potentially lethal problem with one of the shuttle's booster rockets.

The mission, in which the U.S. space shuttle Columbia is to carry the European space lab science laboratory, was due to blast off on Oct. 28. But U.S. space officials announced Friday night it has been delayed until at least Nov. 28 to allow time to replace a "suspect nozzle" in one of the boosters.

The decision, by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and the 11-nation European Space Agency (ESA), followed the discovery that the last shuttle flight in August was within minutes of possible disaster.

Officials said a heat shield on one of the two solid fuel boosters almost burned through completely. If it had, the shuttle with five crewmen on board could have swerved off course or even crashed.

Elephant stumps British army troops

LONDON (R) — An elephant named Slowly Slowly defeated a British army and London zoo in a sit-down strike. The three-year-old animal, deemed to have grown wild after 15 years at the zoo, had been lured into a crate disguised as a feeding box in order to move it to a rural zoo. A squad of 25 soldiers was trying to manhandle the elephant, and the crate on a truck when she sat down. Keepers, who tried to move her, were injured in the attempt. It took three hours to persuade her to stand up, reverse herself out of the crate and back into her paddock.

Cyclists, drunks plague Peking

PEKING (R) — Traffic police are cracking down on roadhogs after sharp rise in deaths and injuries on Peking's crowded roads. China Daily said. Official figures show 297 people were killed in road accidents in the first eight months of 1983, up 16.9 per cent on the same period last year, while the number of injured rose to 4,630. Police said most pile-ups were due to speeding or drunken driving. Bicycle accidents mainly involved cyclists carrying passengers or excessively heavy loads.

Low-tar cigarettes help reduce cancer

LONDON (R) — Low-tar cigarettes are helping to reduce lung-cancer deaths, according to British scientists. But they say the amount of tar in cigarettes should be cut still further. The government-appointed independent scientific committee on smoking and health said tobacco firms should also make cigarettes produce less carbon monoxide, which they believe causes heart disease. Tar was the main cause of lung cancer among smokers, the committee said in a report to the Health Department. The committee said nicotine from cigarettes had not itself been shown to cause heart-lung disease. It proposed that nicotine, dependence on which stopped some people from giving up smoking, should not be cut too far — otherwise smokers might compensate by inhaling more deeply.

Cat strangler in jail for murder

NORFOLK, Virginia (R) — A 19-year-old man who killed his girlfriend's father and hundreds of cats was jailed for 40 years here. Daniel Ketterman, who pleaded guilty to the 1982 murder of Glen Thompson, told a court psychiatrist he decapitated 13 cats in five days while thinking about harming Thompson. Ketterman also said when he was depressed he felt better if he strangled a cat. He kept his heads in a shed and threw the bodies at bus stops where schoolchildren would find them. He had killed four or five cats a month for five years, the psychiatrist told the court.

Electric minibus taxis in Moscow

MOSCOW (R) — The first 10 battery-driven minibus taxis took to Moscow's streets Friday, the Soviet news agency TASS reported. Minibus taxis, which seat 10 people and ply fixed routes in central Moscow, have been common for some time, but these are the first electric ones driven by storage batteries. Built by the Soviet Yelgava van factory, they are capable of speeds up to 60 kph, TASS said.

Execution drugs to be studied

WASHINGTON (R) — A U.S. Appeals Court has ruled that drugs used to execute prisoners must be proven painless before they can be administered. Eleven of 50 U.S. states use lethal injections for executions and four give prisoners a choice of ways to die. The 2-1 Appeals Court decision in a suit brought by condemned men in Texas and Oklahoma will cause a delay in planned executions in those states pending a possible appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court by the federal government.

Seoul alleges N. Korean attack plan

SEOUL (R) — South Korean President Chun Doo Hwan said Saturday North Korea planned to attack the South after killing him in last Sunday's Rangoon bomb blast.

Mr. Chun, who escaped the explosion by a few minutes, has squarely blamed North Korea for the bombing in which 21 people, including four South Korean ministers, died.

He told his top military commanders at the presidential palace: "It is being proved that North Korea's Rangoon atrocity was a war conspiracy carefully planned by (North Korean leader) Kim Il-Sung and his son Kim Jong-Il to stage a sudden military invasion after killing me, the head of state."

"An attempt to assassinate a head of state is nothing different from an announcement of war, and therefore the Burma incident was a clear announcement of a destructive war against our survival and safety," he said.

Mr. Chun said all forces should be completely prepared as North Korea heightened tension around

the Korean Peninsula after the "cruel and preposterous incident."

"I am once again convinced that our strongest retaliation against these homicidal war maniacs is to strengthen our defence capabilities and secure superiority of power over them," Mr. Chun said.

A defence ministry spokesman said 50 top military commanders, including chiefs of the South Korean army, air force and navy, held a meeting to discuss ways of further ensuring the security of the peninsula before they visited Mr. Chun.

U.S. Gen. Robert Seneff, commander of combined U.S.-South Korean forces, postponed a planned trip to Washington next week in view of the current tense situation.

South Korea's 600,000-strong armed forces and 40,000 U.S. troops stationed here continued to be on special alert since the Rangoon incident.

But Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe said on returning to

Tokyo after attending the funeral here on Thursday of 17 South Korean victims, that President Chun had told him that South Korea "will settle it (the bomb attack) diplomatically and will not retaliate militarily."

North Korea charged Friday that South Korean soldiers had intruded into the northern sector of the Demilitarised Zone (DMZ), separating the two Koreas, during Thursday night and opened fire on a northern post.

But the United Nations Command (UNC) denied the allegation in a message to North Korea Friday and countercharged that its investigation showed that two North Korean guard posts in the DMZ fired over 2,000 rounds of ammunition during a six-hour period from late Thursday.

President Chun Saturday swore in new cabinet members following Friday's major government reshuffle which affected 12 of the 22 ministers.

Related story on Page 7

Fate of Grenadan premier unknown

ST. GEORGE'S, Grenada (R) — Grenadan authorities are saying nothing about the whereabouts of left-wing Prime Minister Maurice Bishop after what appeared to be a power struggle between him and hardline radicals.

Reports that Deputy Prime Minister Bernard Coard had taken over the Caribbean island were followed by an announcement on the government-owned Radio Free Grenada that Mr. Coard had resigned his post.

It said he did so to make clear that rumours he had plotted to kill Mr. Bishop were lies.

The radio added that Mr. Bishop's personal security chief, Cleotus St. Paul, was arrested for spreading the rumours.

It denied reports that several ministers were under house arrest, and said nothing about Mr. Bishop, who led the English-speaking Caribbean's first coup in 1979.

The confused developments brought into the open what members of the ruling New Jewel movement had privately described as a long power struggle between Mr. Bishop and Mr. Coard.

Mr. Bishop was heard on the radio on Thursday denying reports of a split in the government.

The radio said that following rumours of the murder plot, an insurance company owner led an attempt to seize arms from a militia station in order to kill Mr. Coard.

The Caribbean news agency CANA earlier reported that Selwyn Strachan, first minister of national mobilisation and a known Coard supporter, had announced that the deputy prime minister had taken over from Mr. Bishop who also holds the portfolios of foreign and home affairs, information, culture and security.

Rain disrupts peaceful West German protests

BREMERHAVEN, West Germany (R) — West German anti-nuclear protests against the planned deployment of new U.S. missiles, expected to attract large numbers of demonstrators this weekend, were muted by rainy weather Saturday.

Reports from around the country said the number of protesters turning out at most of the main rallies was less than predicted by organisers and the only mass demonstrations taking place were in this northern port, Bonn and West Berlin.

The demonstrations are part of scores of actions throughout West Germany over a 10-day period which will culminate in mass rallies in big cities next Saturday.

In Bremerhaven, police said more than 10,000 demonstrators packed a rally in the main square

as the blockade of a nearby U.S. army base entered its third day.

The demonstrators, who claimed more than 15,000 were present, were planning to march to the blockaded Carl Schurz base Saturday afternoon.

Police said they had identified about 800 people who had caused trouble at past demonstrations and that two of them were being detained until Saturday evening after crowbars and hammers were discovered in their car.

More than 6,000 police are on duty in the port, backed up by armoured cars, water cannon and helicopters.

In Bonn about 4,000 people linked hands to form a human chain stretching 8 kilometres between the U.S. and Soviet embassies.

U.S. improves anti-satellite technology

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States by 1990 could have a ground-based laser weapon able to destroy Soviet satellites even in distant orbits, President Reagan's science adviser George Keyworth has said.

Mr. Keyworth also said major advances by U.S. scientists over the past year could make Mr. Reagan's proposed space-based nuclear missile defence system feasible before long.

He told the armed forces communications and electronics association that both systems should be demonstrated publicly once they are operational in an effort to bring Moscow to terms in arms talks with the United States.

Mr. Keyworth said recent experiments showed that lasers intense beams of light — could be fired from earth at targets in space, correcting for the atmospheric distortions that had been impairing their accuracy.

Such weapons could be used ultimately against enemy missiles, but initially against Soviet satellites, he said.

He said it was "certainly possible but by no means certain" that Washington could build a ground-based laser weapon, correcting for atmospheric distortions, that would be "powerful enough to serve as an anti-satellite weapon, and might even be strong enough to be effective against (distant) satellites."

The Pentagon is planning to test a less advanced anti-satellite rocket, to be fired from the back of an F-15 jet fighter, in the near future, U.S. officials said.

Mr. Keyworth said Washington should plan for a number of visible demonstrations to convince the Kremlin to be more flexible in arms negotiations.

For example, by demonstrating that the U.S. ground-based laser could destroy satellites in space, he said, the United States would have shown Moscow that an effective anti-missile system was not far down the road.

The author was not alone in his interest in the fate of the Sydney. Historians have long sought evidence of Japanese and German secret cooperation before Japan entered the war.

Mr. Montgomery began his research in 1978 after he concluded the official account left too many questions unanswered.

The Kormoran had been ravaging merchant shipping when it spotted the Sydney. According to Montgomery, the Kormoran captain viewed his position as hopeless against the heavy guns of the cruiser unless he resorted to camouflage.

The Kormoran skipper ran up the Norwegian flag, started a fire on deck and sent out an SOS that the merchant ship had been attacked by a raider and was in trouble.

The unsuspecting Sydney signalled the ship to heave to. When the cruiser was only 1,200 metres away, the Kormoran suddenly hit the Sydney with a torpedo from tubes below her waterline and battle commenced, Mr. Montgomery said.

The Kormoran eventually surrendered and 318 of her 398 crew survived. But as the survivors struggled in life rafts towards the Sydney to be picked up, another torpedo hit the cruiser with a huge explosion and she split in two and sank.

This torpedo, Mr. Montgomery surmised, was fired by the lurking Japanese submarine.

Mr. Montgomery said life rafts from the Sydney were riddled with machinegun bullets that German survivors could not explain.

Furthermore, Japanese milk bottles were found in the Kormoran's lifeboats though it never called at a Japanese port.

Sino-U.S. ties better despite problems

WASHINGTON (R) — Lengthy talks between Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian and U.S. officials have further improved Sino-U.S. relations but have not cleared the way for delivery of high technology goods badly needed by Peking.

"There was general agreement that we made considerable progress in the relationship," a senior State Department official said after the three days of talks that ended on Thursday.

Mr. Wu's visit to Washington followed a series of trips by senior U.S. officials to Peking this year, including a visit in February by Secretary of State George Shultz.

Mr. Shultz learned the full depth of China's desire to obtain U.S. high technology goods to

help its modernisation plans.

President Reagan later eased barriers to such exports by designating China as a friendly non-aligned country, a status enjoyed by nations like India and Yugoslavia.

But before the exports can flow, the United States requires assurances that the technology will not be transferred to third countries.

This requirement was made clear to Mr. Wu, but the State Department official said that while some progress was made, more work had to be done on the issue, probably through diplomatic channels in Peking.

The Chinese are said in press reports to be seeking a range of

advanced technology in a number of areas, including computers and oil exploration.

China also has a list of military hardware that it would like to purchase but any progress on a sales agreement is being left until a visit by the Chinese defence minister next year.

Although there was no major breakthrough in this week's talks, and none was expected, the two sides agreed to resume official cultural exchanges next year, putting behind them last April's row over the U.S. decision to grant asylum to tennis star Hui Na.

But the long festering dispute over U.S. arms sales to Taiwan, which China regards as an infringement of its sovereignty, is not likely to be settled soon.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
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DON'T GIVE UP THE SHIP!

North-South vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♦ K 986
♦ 43
♦ K 16
♦ A K J 9

WEST EAST
♦ Q 105 ♦ 2
♦ J 10752 ♦ K 986
♦ 8532 ♦ 974
♦ 10 ♦ Q 8753

SOUTH
♦ A J 743
♦ A Q
♦ A Q 10
♦ 642

The bidding:
South West North East
1 NT Pass 2 ♦ Pass
2 ♦ Pass 5 ♦ Pass
6 ♦ Pass Pass Pass
Opening lead: Ten of ♠.

Reaching a good contract is only part of the battle. You have to make it before you can be acclaimed the victor!

North-South used good judgment to reach a sound spade slam. After locating a spade fit via the Stayman convention, North was faced with a difficult decision. His hand was worth 16 points in support of spades — not enough to drive to slam on his own. But he was reluctant to make a pusillanimous raise to four spades. As a compromise, he made a general slam try by leaping over!

game. South's fifth spade and near maximum convinced him to push on.

Declarer won the club lead in dummy and cashed the king-ace of trumps to learn that he had a sure loser there. Since he was a great believer in finesse, declarer entered dummy with a diamond and took the heart finesse, which succeeded.

Then he led a club only to learn that the finesse was doomed to lose. Declarer threw in his cards in disgust, conceding down one.

The kindest thing to say about declarer's concession was that it was a bit premature. With careful timing, the hand could still have been brought home.

Let's assume that the play has proceeded as above. The heart finesse has succeeded, and declarer has discovered that he has a sure trump loser. Declarer can still enlist the aid of the enemy to bring home his slam.

Declarer must cash the ace of hearts and his remaining diamond winners, then graciously present West with the lead by exiting with a trump. West has left nothing but red cards, so whatever he returns permits declarer to ruff in dummy while discarding the losing club from his hand. Making six-odd.

Indonesia to improve army efficiency

JAKARTA (R) — Indonesia's armed forces commander, Gen. Benny Murdani, has launched an efficiency drive to cut wasteful spending and concentrate his limited funds where they are most needed.

He said in an interview in the latest edition of Tempo magazine the armed forces would spend less on ceremonial and administration, freeing more funds for equipment and other improvements.

Economies in uniforms alone could save up to \$24 million a year, enough to buy 30 French Exocet missiles, Gen. Murdani told the weekly news magazine.

Cuts could also be made in training without reducing effectiveness, he added. Parachute training, for instance, would be given to only the army's best troops instead of all 100 battalions, Gen. Murdani said.

Lockheed Hercules transport aircraft would be used less to move troops in peacetime, saving \$1,000 per aircraft hour, he said. The structure of regional military commands could also be simplified to save several million dollars a year, he added.

Gen. Murdani, 51, who was appointed armed forces chief in March, said he did not wish to criticise his predecessors but the present structure of the armed forces was "too heavy."

Indonesia's air force, for instance, had 27,000 personnel to run about 100 aircraft, while Singapore's air force had only 7,000 people and more than 150 planes, he said.

But Gen. Murdani said the overall size of the Indonesian forces would not be reduced.

3 dead, 25 hurt in Punjab

NEW DELHI (R) — At least three people were killed and 25 injured Saturday in an explosion in Chandigarh, administrative centre of India's troubled North Indian state of Punjab, the Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency reported.

The agency quoted police sources as saying a type of hand grenade used by Sikh militants was tossed into a crowd of people watching a traditional Hindu play.

The prosperous farming state was put under direct rule from New Delhi last week after the killing of eight Hindus in Punjab, where most of India's 12 million Sikhs live.

Sri Lanka lifts ban on communists

COLOMBO (R) — The Sri Lankan government Saturday lifted a ban imposed on the pro-Moscow Communist Party during recent ethnic violence.

A presidential secretariat spokesman said a ban at the same time on two leftist parties, the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (People's Liberation Front) and the Nawa Sama Samaja Party (New Socialist Party), remained.

Information Minister Anura Kumara Disa said Friday the ban on the parties would be lifted when the security authorities felt it was no longer necessary.

World War II naval mystery probed

By Leslie Dowd
Reuter

LONDON — A British researcher claims that a Japanese submarine and a 40-year official cover-up lie behind one of the great riddles of World War II, the sinking of the cruiser Sydney, pride of the Australian navy.

Author Michael Montgomery, whose father died aboard the Sydney, believes that the 6,830-tonne warship was torpedoed by a Japanese submarine off western Australia weeks before Japan entered the war on Germany's side.

He sets out his claim in a book entitled "Who sank the Sydney?", in which he also suggests that the submarine machine-gunned survivors in the water and of life rafts to prevent witnesses.

History records that the Sydney went down with all 645 crew on Nov. 19, 1941, after a battle with the armed German merchant ship Kormoran.

The official version is that the Sydney sank after being set ablaze in the battle with the Kormoran and was last seen sailing on fire out of sight. The dictionary of disasters at sea, published by the Lloyds of London shipping insurance market in 1969, says: "The most reasonable conjecture is that the flames reached her magazine and she blew up."

But naval experts have long wondered how the Kormoran could have sunk a heavily-armoured cruiser that could fire shells 16 kilometres and had already distinguished itself by sinking an Italian cruiser and destroyer.

Mr. Montgomery claims the true story was never revealed because British leader Winston Churchill used the incident to "swing President Roosevelt against Japan

at a crucial time when isolationists were trying to keep the United States out of war."

At about the time of the sinking Roosevelt broke off talks with Japan that could have fostered U.S. neutrality.

Two weeks later, the Japanese launched their surprise air attack on the U.S. fleet at Pearl Harbour and America was at war.

Mr. Montgomery believes the killer Japanese submarine had been secretly aiding and supplying the Kormoran and had made a rendezvous with the German vessel.

He spent five years researching the book, piecing it together by interviewing Kormoran survivors and checking through official and unofficial records.

He suspected an official cover-up when he ran into a dead-end at the public records office in London. He found that several files which may have contained references to the affair, including telegram exchanges between Mr. Churchill and President Roosevelt, are still being kept secret.

"I tried to get permission to see the files but was told it had been decided that it would be against the national interest," Mr. Montgomery told Reuters.

"I can only put the continuing secrecy down to sensitivity over the American alliance," Mr. Montgomery said.

"Churchill had to avoid the impression at all costs that he was pushing Roosevelt into the war. If it could be demonstrated that America was pushed it would do the alliance no good."

Mr. Montgomery was only four when he lost his father, who was on loan to the Australian Navy serving as navigator on the Sydney.

مكتبة الجليل